STAR WARS®

OMNIBUS

TALES OF THE JEDI

VOLUME 2

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DARK HORSE BOOKS®

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This volume collects *Star Wars Tales of the Jedi: The Freedon Nadd Uprising* #1–2; *Star Wars Tales of the Jedi: Dark Lords of the Sith* #1–6; *Star Wars Tales of the Jedi: The Sith War* #1–6; and *Star Wars Tales of the Jedi: Redemption* #1–5, comic books all originally published by Dark Horse Comics.

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Nearly four thousand years before the destruction of the Death Star, Jedi Master Arca and his three Jedi apprentices—Ulic Qel-Droma, Cay Qel-Droma, and Tott Doneeta—have succeeded in bringing peace to Onderon, a planet long divided into warring tribes.

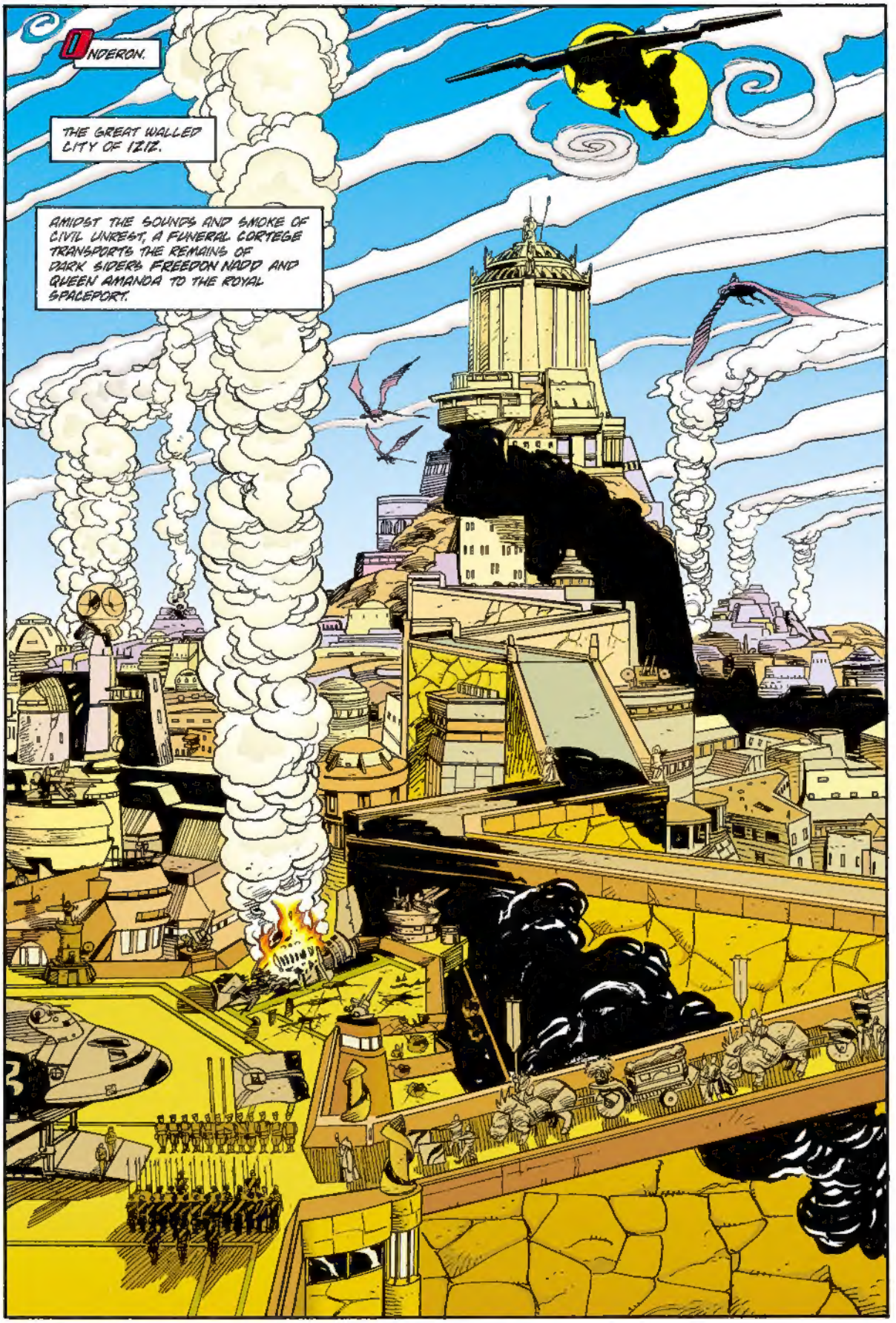
Following the death of Queen Amanoa of Iziz, her daughter Galia has ascended to the throne, sharing power with her husband, the Beast-Lord Oron Kira. However, many Onderonians still worship the memory of Freedon Nadd, a Dark Jedi who ruled the planet centuries earlier.

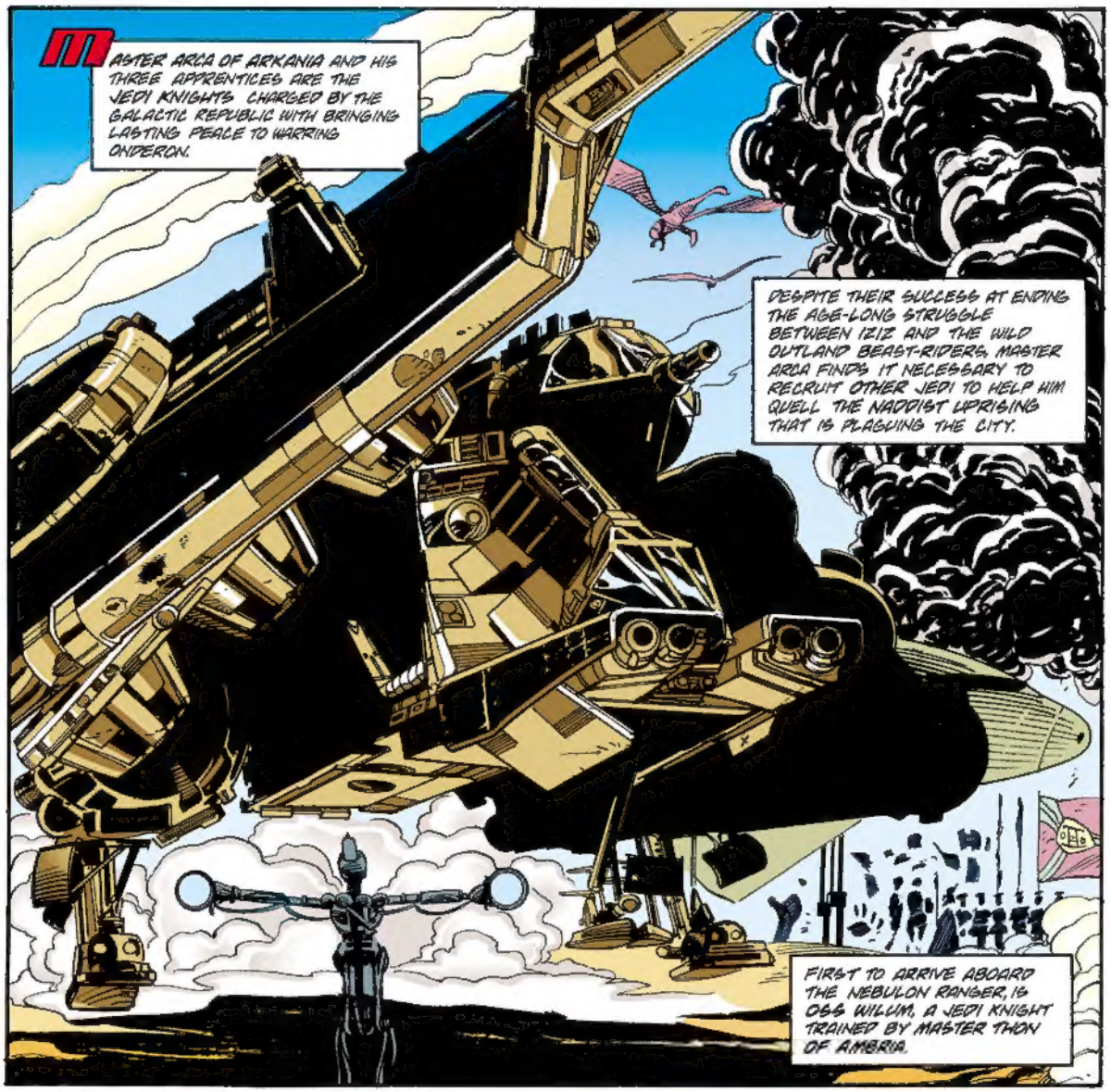
Joining with mutinous officers from Onderon's royal military, the Naddists are staging violent protests inside the great walled city of Iziz, and Queen Galia's new government is on the verge of collapse . . .

The Freedon Nadd Uprising | illustration by Dave Dorman

Approximately 3,998 years before the Battle of Yavin . . .

script by Tom Veitch
art by Tony Akins and Denis Rodier
colors by Suzanne Bourdages
letters by Willie Schubert


ONDERON.
THE GREAT WALLED CITY OF IZIZ.
AMIDST THE SOUNDS AND SMOKE OF CIVIL UNREST, A FUNERAL CORTEGE TRANSPORTS THE REMAINS OF DARK SIDER FREEDON NADD AND QUEEN AMANDA TO THE ROYAL SPACEPORT.


MASTER ARCA OF ARKANIA AND HIS THREE APPRENTICES ARE THE JEDI KNIGHTS CHARGED BY THE GALACTIC REPUBLIC WITH BRINGING LASTING PEACE TO WARRING ONDERON.
DESPITE THEIR SUCCESS AT ENDING THE AGE-LONG STRUGGLE BETWEEN IZIZ AND THE WILD OUTLAND BEAST-RIDERS, MASTER ARCA FINDS IT NECESSARY TO RECRUIT OTHER JEDI TO HELP HIM QUELL THE NADDIST UPRISING THAT IS PLAGUING THE CITY.
FIRST TO ARRIVE ABOARD THE NEBULON RANGER, IS OGG WILUM, A JEDI KNIGHT TRAINED BY MASTER THON OF AMBRIA.

ARCA'S APPRENTICE, THE TWI'LEK TOTT DONEETA, BRINGS OGG ALL THE WAY FROM THE RIM OF THE GALAXY.
LOOKS LIKE A ROYAL FUNERAL, TOTT.
MASTER ARCA'S WITH THEM... AND LEIC AND CAY.

NEWLY CROWNED QUEEN GALIA AND HER HUSBAND ORON KIRA LEAD THE FUNERAL PROCESSION--
--FOLLOWED BY MASTER ARCA AND THE JEDI BROTHERS ULIC AND CAY QEL-DROMA.
ARCA HAS ORDERED THAT THE STONE SARCOPHAGI CONTAINING THE REMAINS OF FREEDON NADD AND QUEEN AMANDA BE REMOVED FROM THE PLANET TO ONE OF ITS FOUR MOONS--
MASTER ARCA, OSS WILLUM HAS AGREED TO HELP US WITH OUR WORK.
IT IS A GREAT HONOR TO SERVE YOU...
BUT MASTER ARCA... YOU LOOK UNWELL!
THE DARK SIDE OF THE FORCE... THE CITY IS STILL PERMEATED WITH IT...
IT'S AFFECTING ALL OF US.

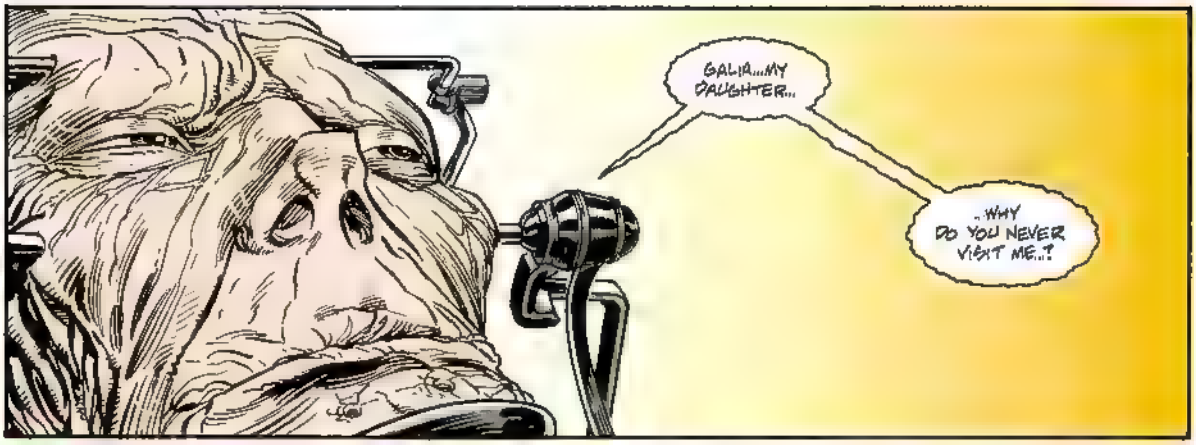
IN SPITE OF THE GREATEST EFFORTS OF THE JEDI, THE DARK SIDE HAS NEVER BEEN COMPLETELY DRIVEN FROM THE GALAXY...
AND DESPITE THE LIGHT I HAVE BROUGHT, IT SEEMS CURIOUSLY POWERFUL ON THIS WORLD.
THE DARK JEDI FREEDON NADD STILL HAS A FOLLOWING AMONG THE POPULACE.
I BELIEVE SOME OF HIS ADHERENTS ARE DARK-SIDE MAGICIANS.
A TOMB HAS BEEN PREPARED ON THE DXUN MOON, MASTER ARCA.
SHALL WE TAKE THE SARCOPHAGI ABOARD NOW?
YES, THE SOONER WE GET NADD'S REMAINS OFF THIS WORLD, THE SOONER WE CAN COME TO GRIPS WITH WHATEVER'S POISONING THE ATMOSPHERE HERE!
ARCA KNOWS THAT FREEDON NADD WAS A STUDENT OF ANCIENT SITH LORDS WHO LEARNED TO FOCUS DARK-SIDE ENERGIES THROUGH THEIR TEMPLES AND AMULETS.
HE SUSPECTS THAT THESE MALEVOLENT SITH SKILLS ARE STILL BEING PRACTICED SOMEWHERE ON ONDERON--
--HE MAY BE RIGHT.

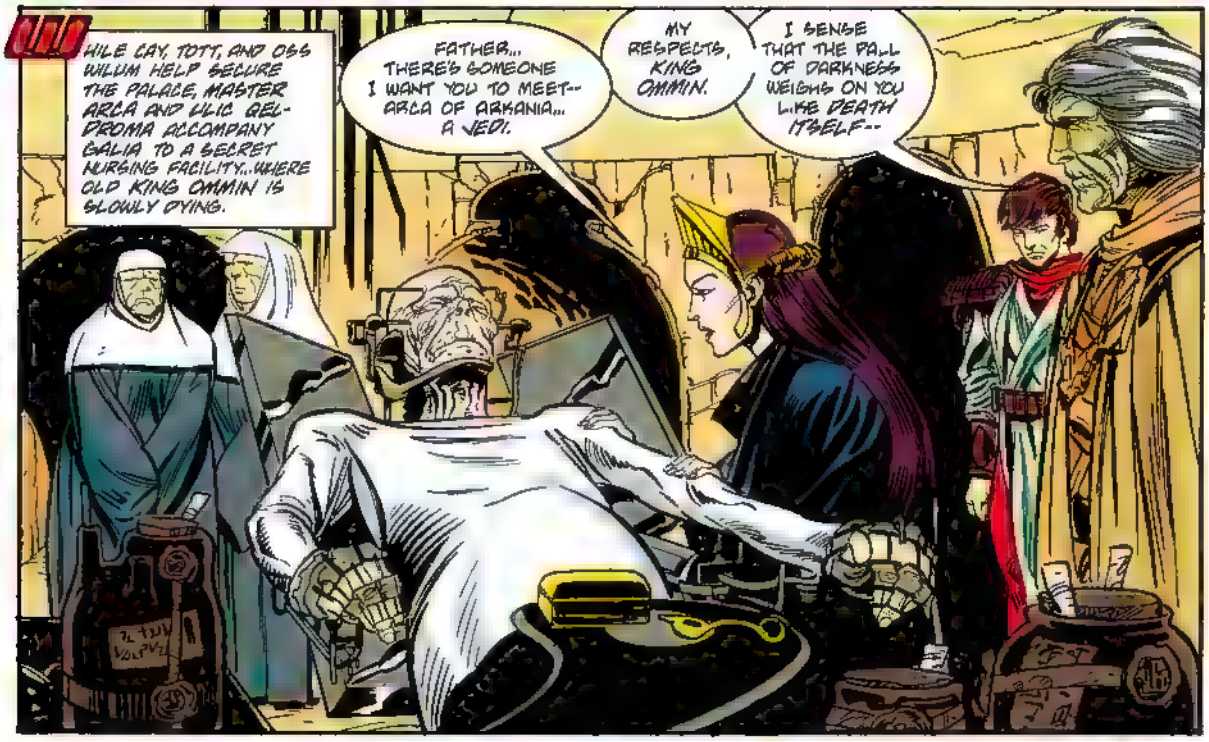
WITHOUT WARNING, A MIGHTY WAR MACHINE ERUPTS THROUGH THE SURFACE OF THE SPACEPORT!
THE MACHINE IS MANNED BY DISSIDENT MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL ARMED FORCES, FIGHTING UNDER A NEW FLAG PROCLAIMING THEIR ALLEGIANCE TO THE POWER OF FREEDON NADD.
THEIR LEADER IS AN ARMORED WARRIOR WHO COMBINES MARTIAL PROWESS WITH HIS PRACTICE IN THE DARK SIDE OF THE FORCE.
TAKE THE QUEEN... I'LL DEAL WITH THE INTRUDERS!

AS THE NAZDISTS' POWERFUL WEAPONS LAY WASTE TO QUEEN GALIA'S TROOPS, THE YOUNG JEDI CREATE A LINE OF DEFENSE AROUND MASTER ARCA--
--BUT MASTER ARCA SUFFERS AN INVISIBLE BLOW!
MASTER!
ULIC... THE DARK SIDERS... HAVE STRUCK BACK!
AS CAY QEL-DROMA AND OSS WILUM ENGAGE THE PRODIGIOUS WARRIOR WITH CLASHING LIGHTSABERS--
--THEY FEEL THE FULL POWER OF THE WARRIOR'S CRUSHING BLOWS!
CAY... CAN'T THINK... EVERYTHING DARK.
HOLD TO THE LIGHT, OSS! IT'S ALL WE'VE GOT!
OTHER NAZDIST SOLDIERS ARE AFTER QUEEN GALIA--
--ORON KIRA AND HIS FELLOW BEAST-RIDERS STAND FAST!

BUT THE REAL OBJECT OF THE ASSAULT IS NEITHER QUEEN GALIA NOR THE GREAT JEDI MASTER--
ALL RIGHT, MEN--WE'VE GOT WHAT WE CAME FOR!
PULL BACK!
IT IS THE SARCOPHAGI OF FREEDON NADD AND QUEEN AMANDA!
HAVING LAID HOLD OF THEIR HONORED DEAD, THE NADDISTS SHAMELESSLY ABANDON THE BATTLEFIELD--

--AND RETREAT ABOARD THEIR WAR MACHINE INTO THE SUB-LEVELS OF THE KILOMETERS-DEEP CITY.
MASTER ARCA... ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
DID YOU FEEL IT? THE DARKNESS...HAD AMAZING STRENGTH. SOMETHING TERRIBLE IS AT WORK.
IT IS AS I FEARED--FREEDON NADD AND QUEEN AMANDA ARE DEAD...BUT THEIR SITH MAGIC IS VERY MUCH ALIVE!
MAYBE MY FATHER... CAN...HELP US.
YOUR FATHER?
YES. HE'S BEEN CONFINED IN A LIFE-SUPPORT FACILITY... FOR MANY YEARS.
MORE THAN MY MOTHER...HE UNDERSTANDS THE DARK SIDE.
THEN HE'S OUR BEST HOPE--
I MUST SEE HIM.

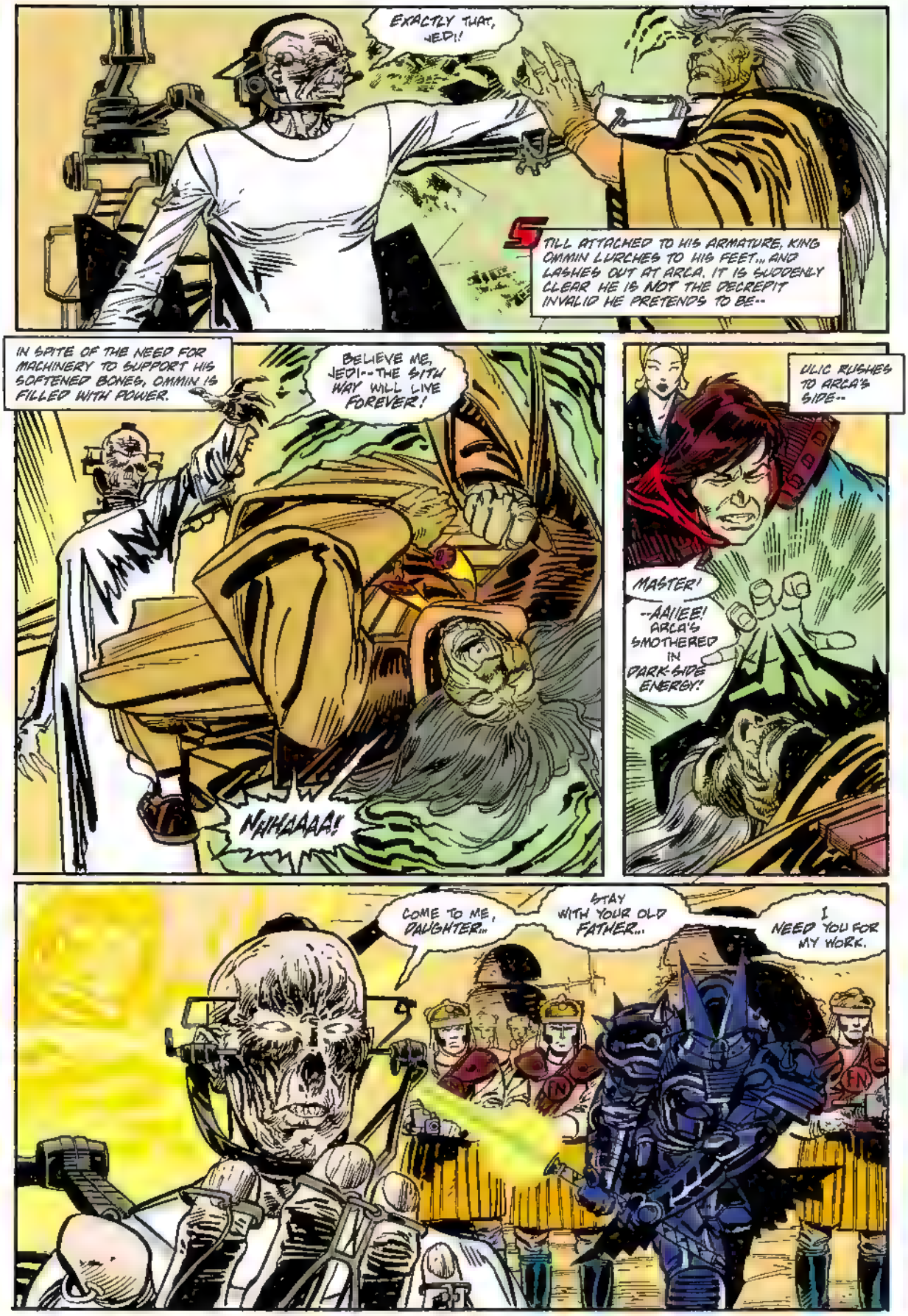

GALIA...MY DAUGHTER...
...WHY DO YOU NEVER VISIT ME..?


WHILE CAY, TOTT, AND OSS WILUM HELP SECURE THE PALACE, MASTER ARCA AND ULIC QEL-DROMA ACCOMPANY GALIA TO A SECRET NURSING FACILITY...WHERE OLD KING OMMIN IS SLOWLY DYING.
FATHER... THERE'S SOMEONE I WANT YOU TO MEET-- ARCA OF ARKANIA... A JEDI.
MY RESPECTS, KING OMMIN.
I SENSE THAT THE PALL OF DARKNESS WEIGHS ON YOU LIKE DEATH ITSELF--

LISTEN TO ME, OLD MAN-- I WANT THE SARCOPHAGUS OF FREEDON NADD.
W-WHAT? I DON'T UNDER-STAND. I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
I AM GLAD THE JEDI HAVE COME TO ONDERON.
BEND CLOSER JEDI... OMMIN WILL TELL YOU A SECRET.

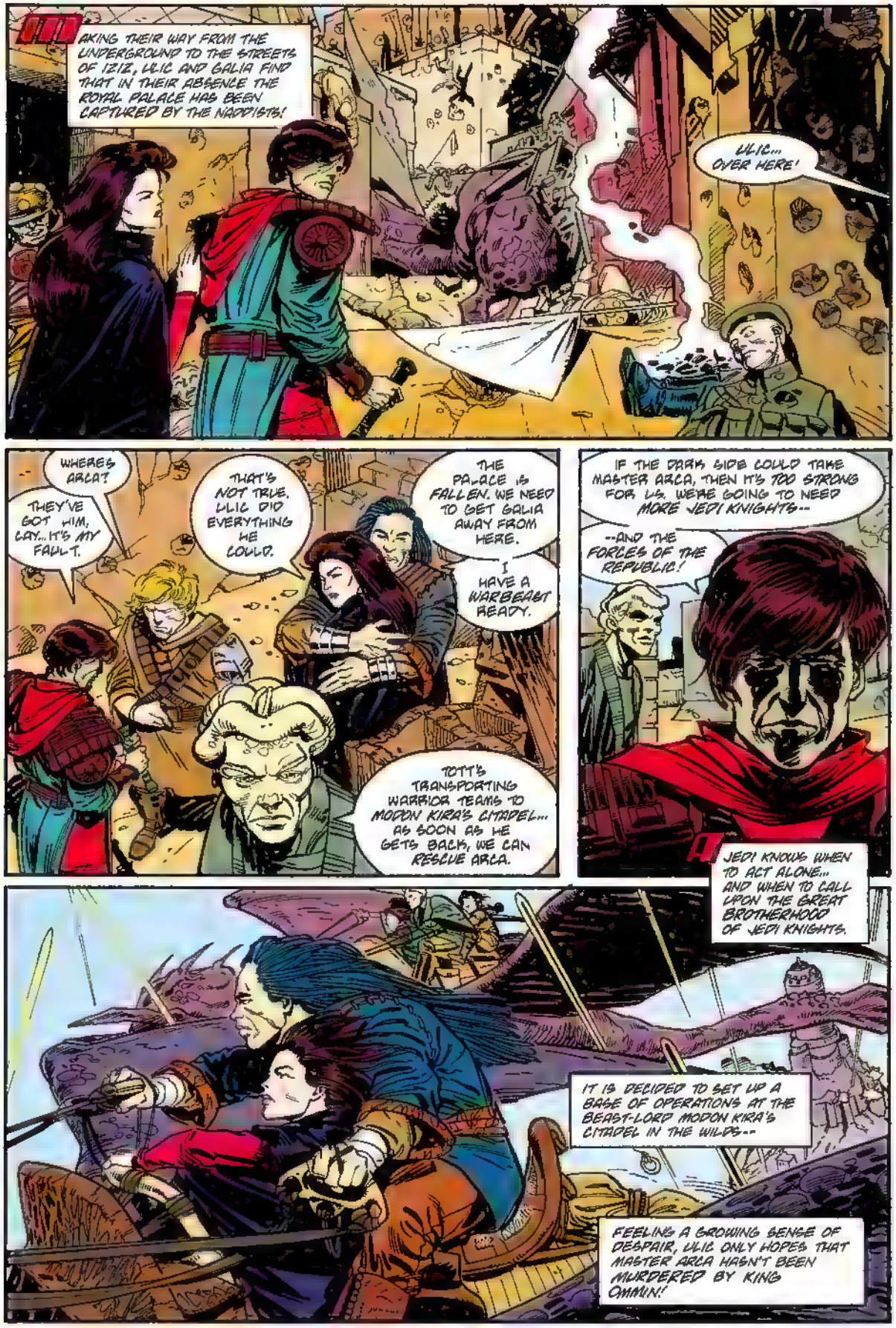
MY MIND... DWELLS IN A GREAT VOID...
THE DARKNESS HAS BEEN WITH US... FOR CENTURIES... MY FATHER... HIS FATHER...
I KNOW THAT.
BUT DO YOU KNOW THE GREAT ONE IS WITH US... EVEN YET?

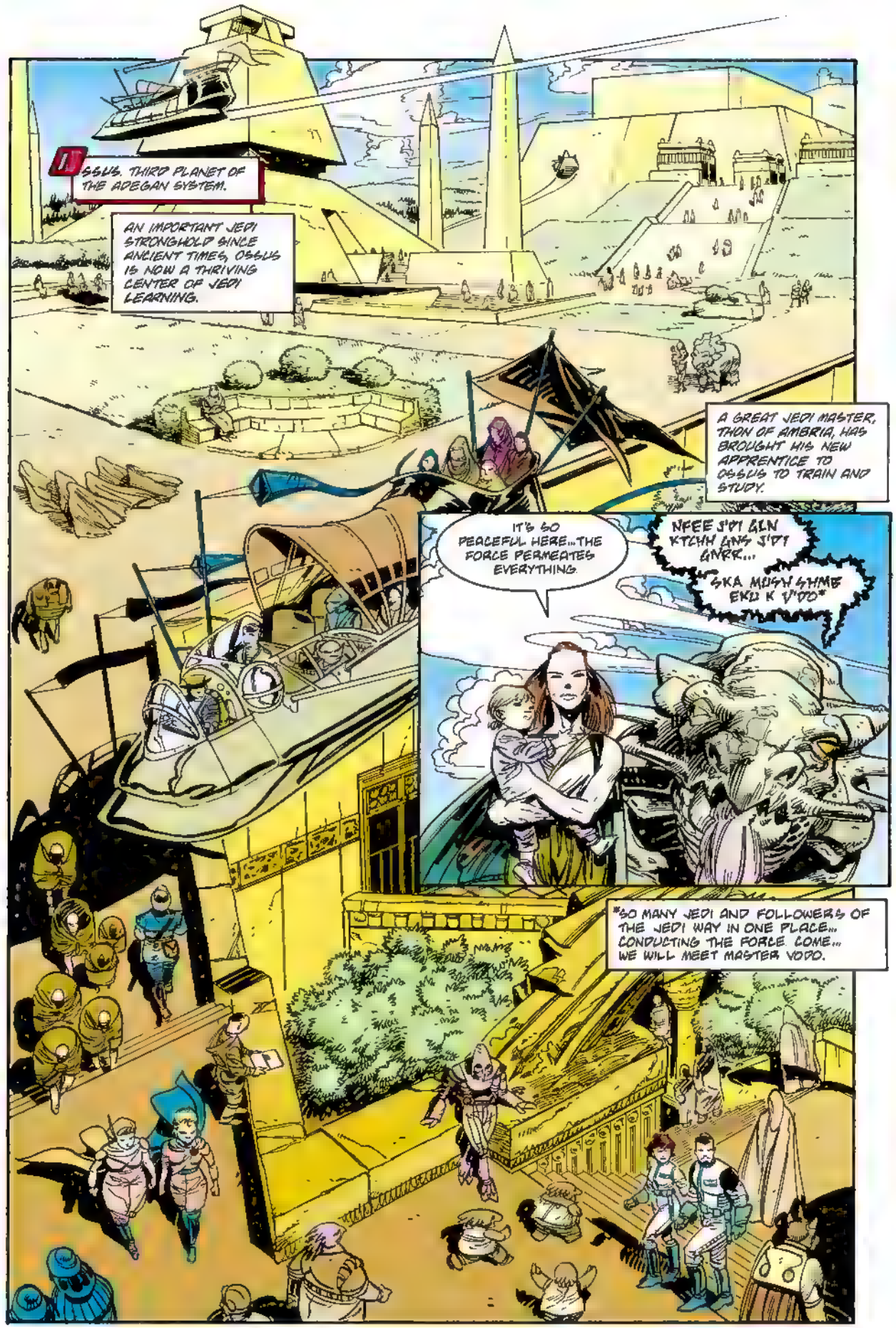
THE AIR SIZZLES WITH BLUE FIRE AS A SPIRIT FORM TAKES SHAPE BEHIND THE DYING KING.
IT IS HIM! FREEDON NADD!
BUT HE'S BEEN DEAD FOR FOUR HUNDRED YEARS!
YES. MY MUMMIFIED FLESH SLEEPS ON STONE.
BUT THIS OLD MAN CALLED MY SPIRIT BACK FROM CHAOS...
I HAVE GIVEN HIM MY KNOWLEDGE.
FEAR ME NOT, JEDI. I AM POWERLESS IN MY PRESENT STATE.
I UNDERSTAND WHY THE DARK SIDE HAS CONTINUED TO FILL THIS CITY... EVEN AFTER THE DEATH OF QUEEN AMANDA.
ALL THE WHILE KING OMMIN HAS BEEN PRACTICING SITH MAGIC... THAT HE LEARNED FROM YOU!

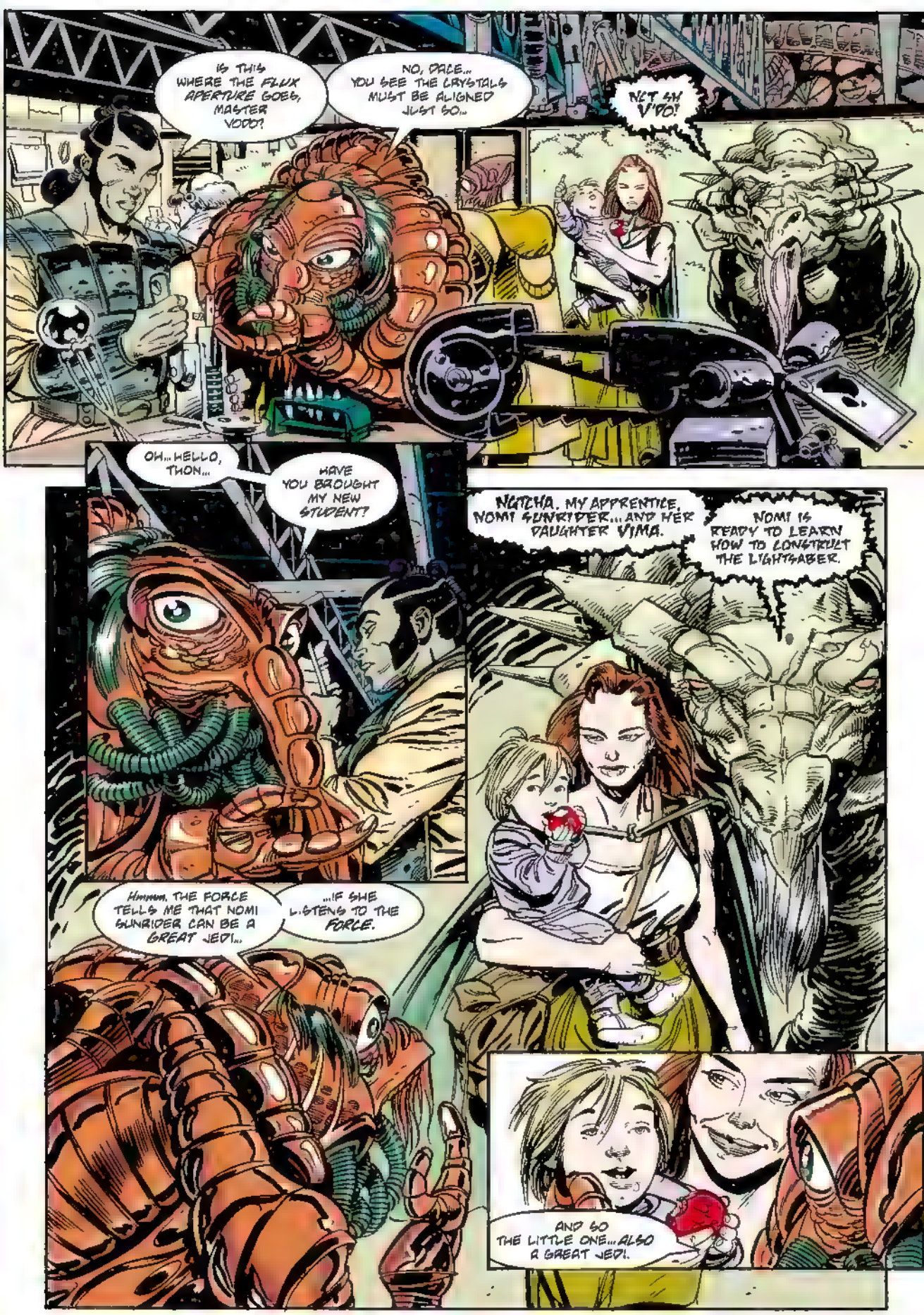

EXACTLY THAT, JEDI!
STILL ATTACHED TO HIS ARMATURE, KING OMMIN LURCHES TO HIS FEET... AND LASHES OUT AT ARCA. IT IS SUDDENLY CLEAR HE IS NOT THE DECREPIT INVALID HE PRETENDS TO BE--
IN SPITE OF THE NEED FOR MACHINERY TO SUPPORT HIS SOFTENED BONES, OMMIN IS FILLED WITH POWER.
BELIEVE ME, JEDI!--THE SITH WAY WILL LIVE FOREVER!
NNHAAAA!
ULIC RUSHES TO ARCA'S SIDE--
MASTER!
--AAIIEE! ARCA'S SMOTHERED IN DARK-SIDE ENERGY!
COME TO ME, DAUGHTER...
STAY WITH YOUR OLD FATHER...
I NEED YOU FOR MY WORK.

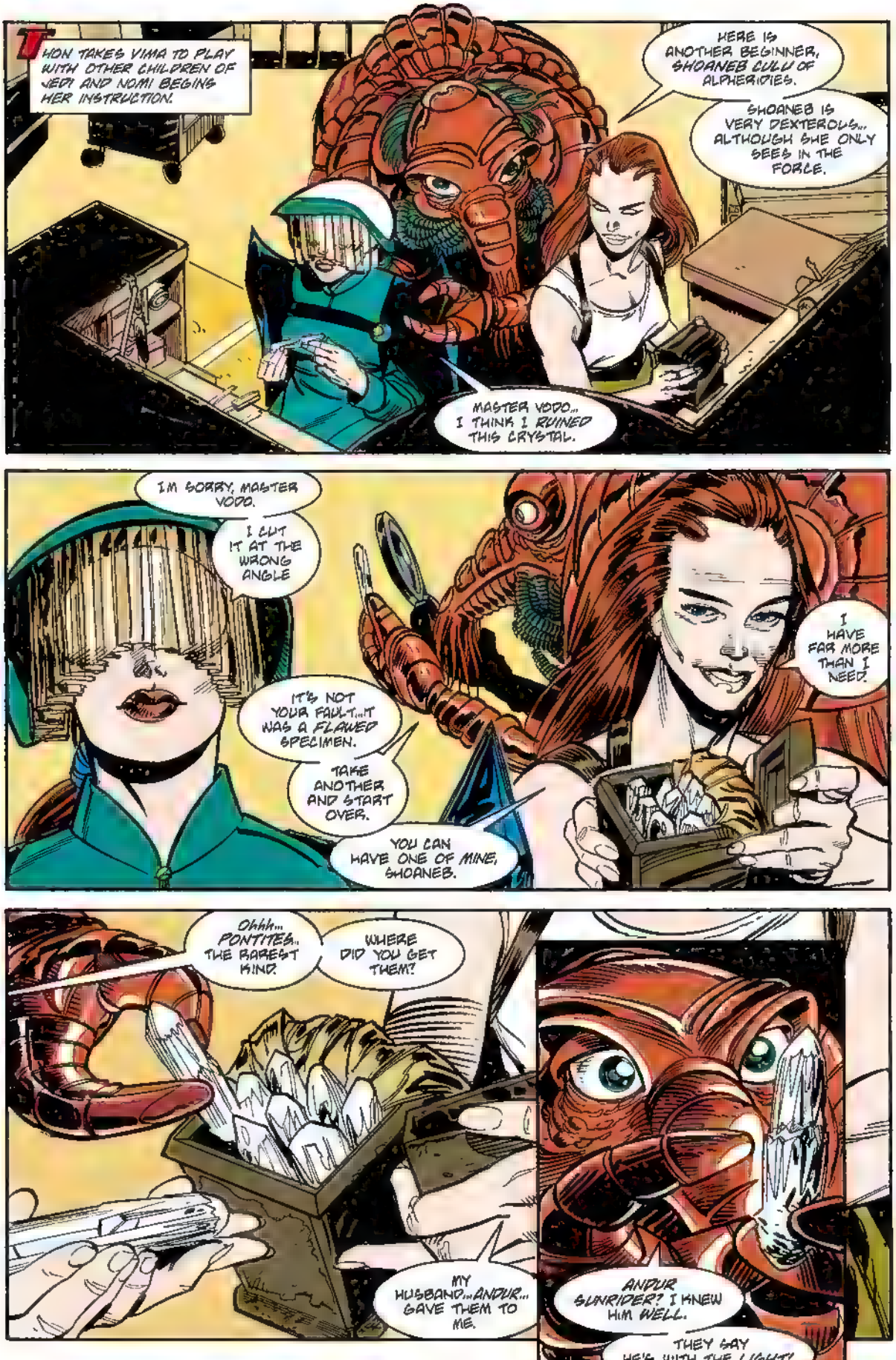
TAKE ME AWAY FROM HIM... PLEASE.
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU... BUT I'M READY TO DIE.
CUT OFF FROM HIS MASTER BY OMMIN'S WARRIORS, ULIC LETS HIS FLASHING LIGHT-SABER FIND ITS MARK!
ULIC'S STRUGGLE GROWS EVEN MORE DESPERATE AS HE SEES HIS MASTER SPIRITED AWAY IN THE ARMS OF KING OMMIN.
I BELIEVE THAT BRAVE JEDI WILL GIVE WARB NULL A FINE BEATING!
YES.
FIGHT WELL, YOUNG JEDI--A GREAT DESTINY AWAITS YOU!

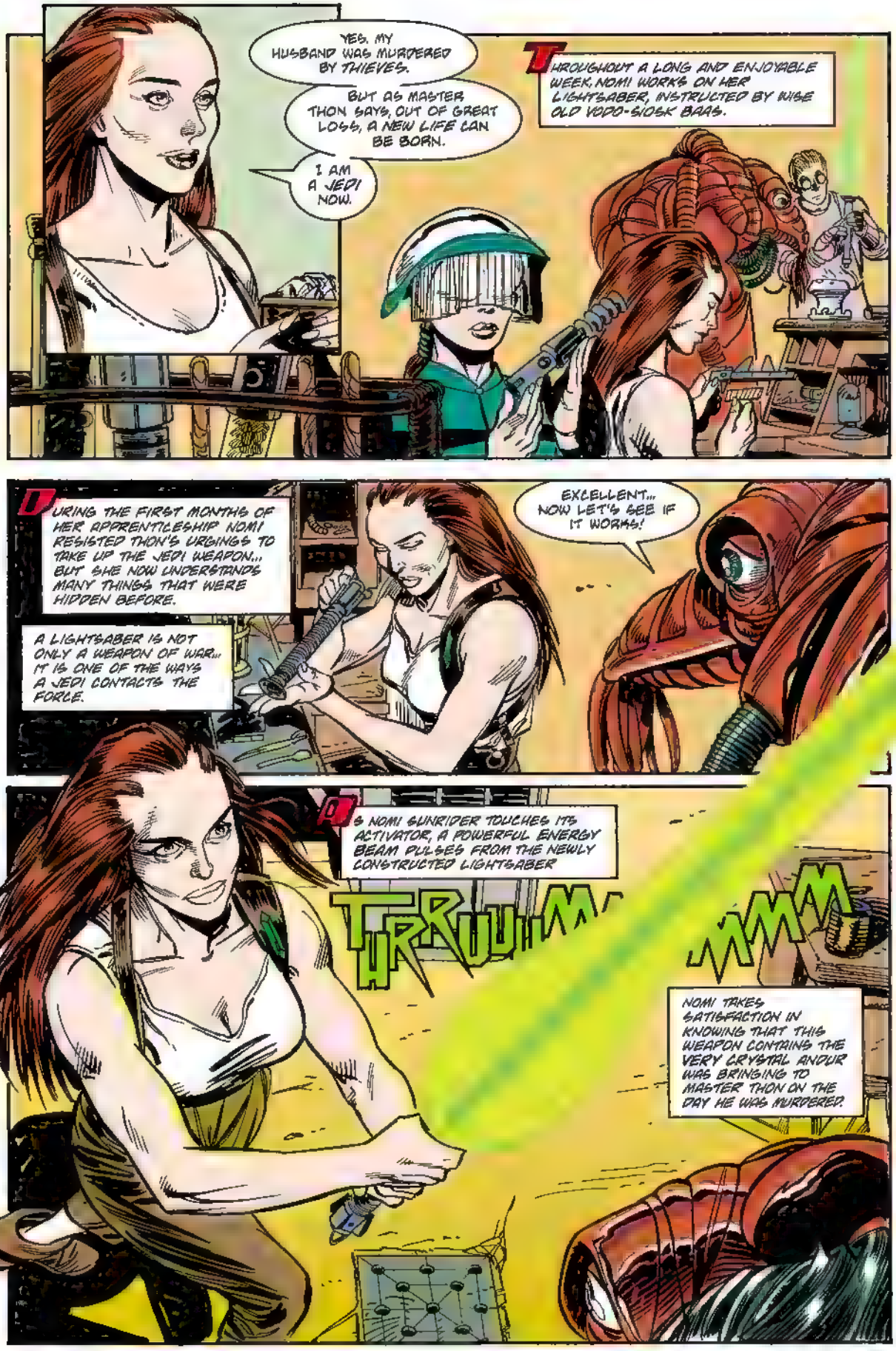
AS THE DARK SPIRIT OF FREEDON NADD VANISHES, OMMIN CARRIES OFF THE BODY OF MASTER ARCA.
HIS FIERCENESS REDOUBLED, ULIC IS DETERMINED TO BRING DOWN THE ARMORED DARK SIDER AND RESCUE HIS MASTER!
THE EVIL WARRIOR PRESSES A WALL OF DARK FORCE AGAINST HIS OPPONENT, SEEKING TO EXTINGUISH ULIC'S WILL--
--ULIC FEELS HIS STRENGTH BEGIN TO EBB...
...THEN, WITH ONE MAGNIFICENT BLOW OF HIS LIGHTSABER, ULIC QEL-DROMA ENDS THE BRIEF CAREER OF WARB NULL!
VICTORIOUS ULIC FEELS NO JUBILATION... ONLY A DARK VERTIGO--
MY HEAD... I FEEL LIKE I'M FALLING FROM A GREAT HEIGHT.
THEY'VE TAKEN ARCA... I CAN'T SENSE WHERE HE IS. DID YOU SEE WHICH WAY THEY WENT?
I'M...NOT SURE.
THEN LET'S GET THE OTHERS. WE'RE GOING TO NEED HELP--LOTS OF HELP.

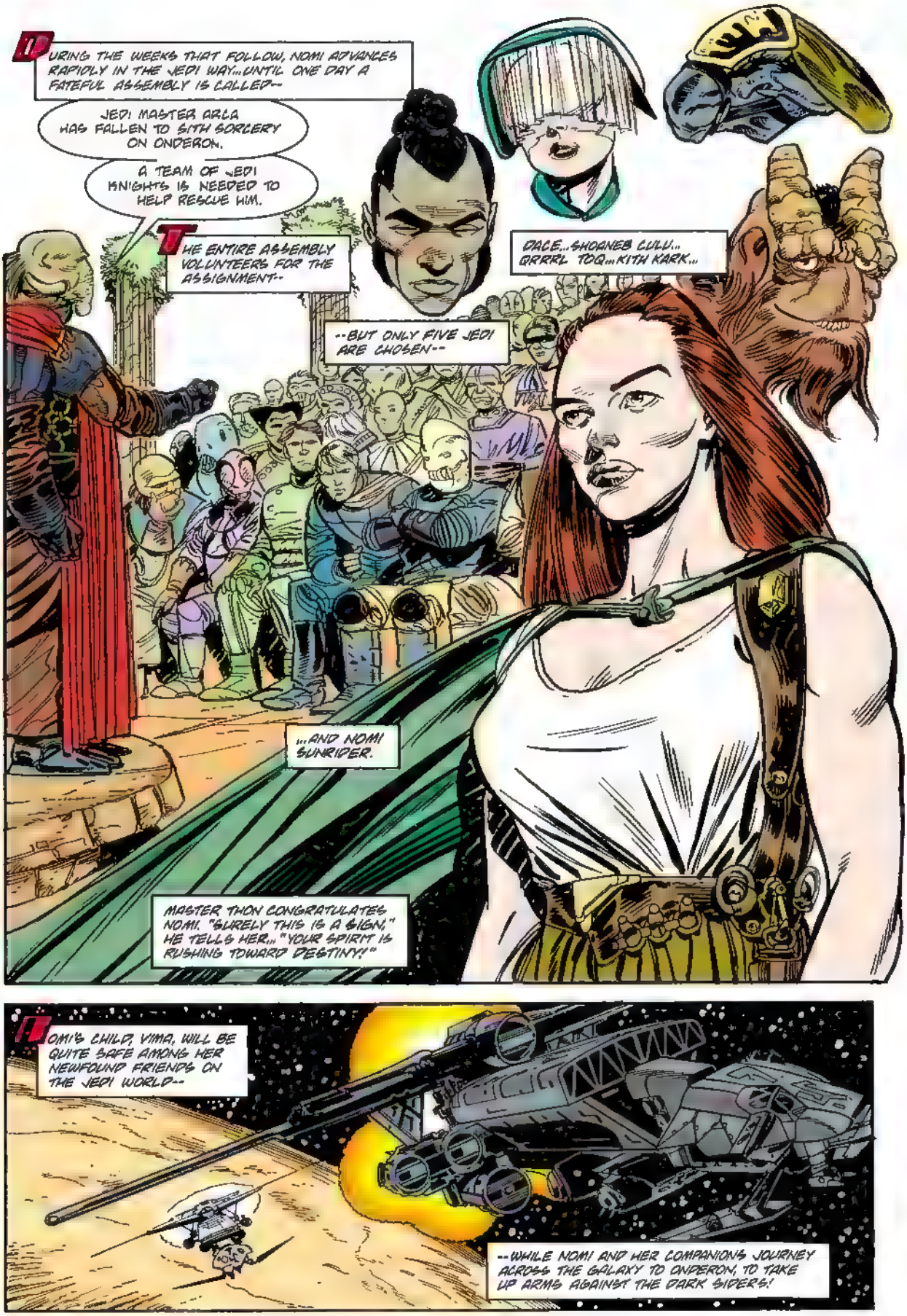

TAKING THEIR WAY FROM THE UNDERGROUND TO THE STREETS OF IZIZ, ULIC AND GALIA FIND THAT IN THEIR ABSENCE THE ROYAL PALACE HAS BEEN CAPTURED BY THE NADDISTS!
ULIC... OVER HERE!
WHERE'S ARCA?
THEY'VE GOT HIM, CAY... IT'S MY FAULT.
THAT'S NOT TRUE. ULIC DID EVERYTHING HE COULD.
THE PALACE is FALLEN. WE NEED TO GET GALIA AWAY FROM HERE.
I HAVE A WARBEAST READY.
TOTT'S TRANSPORTING WARRIOR TEAMS TO MODON KIRA'S CITADEL... AS SOON AS HE GETS BACK, WE CAN RESCUE ARCA.
IF THE DARK SIDE COULD TAKE MASTER ARCA, THEN IT'S TOO STRONG FOR US. WE'RE GOING TO NEED MORE JEDI KNIGHTS--
--AND THE FORCES OF THE REPUBLIC!
JEDI KNOWS WHEN TO ACT ALONE... AND WHEN TO CALL UPON THE GREAT BROTHERHOOD OF JEDI KNIGHTS.
IT IS DECIDED TO SET UP A BASE OF OPERATIONS AT THE BEAST-LORD MODON KIRA'S CITADEL IN THE WILDS--
FEELING A GROWING SENSE OF DESPAIR, ULIC ONLY HOPES THAT MASTER ARCA HASN'T BEEN MURDERED BY KING OMMIN!

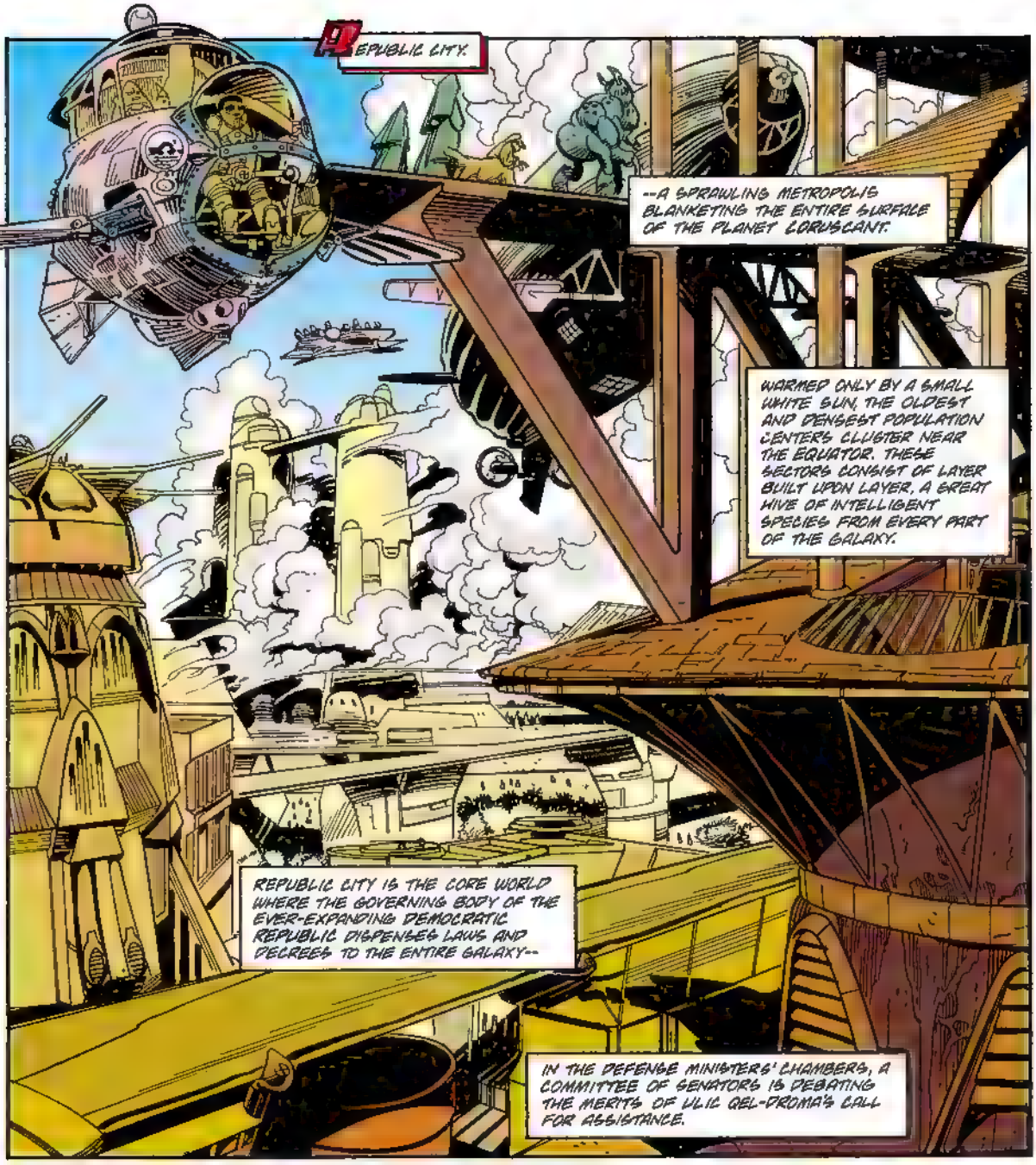

OSSUS. THIRD PLANET OF THE ADEGAN SYSTEM.
AN IMPORTANT JEDI STRONGHOLD SINCE ANCIENT TIMES, OSSUS IS NOW A THRIVING CENTER OF JEDI LEARNING.
A GREAT JEDI MASTER, THON OF AMBRIA, HAS BROUGHT HIS NEW APPRENTICE TO OSSUS TO TRAIN AND STUDY.
IT'S SO PEACEFUL HERE...THE FORCE PERMEATES EVERYTHING.
NFEE J'DI GLN KTCHH GNS J'DI GNRR...
SKA MUSH SHME EKD K V'DO*
"SO MANY JEDI AND FOLLOWERS OF THE JEDI WAY IN ONE PLACE... CONDUCTING THE FORCE. COME... WE WILL MEET MASTER VODO.


IS THIS WHERE THE FLUX APERTURE GOES, MASTER VOOD?
NO, DALE... YOU SEE THE CRYSTALS MUST BE ALIGNED JUST SO...
NOT SO V'OO!
OH... HELLO, THON...
HAVE YOU BROUGHT MY NEW STUDENT?
NUTCHA, MY APPRENTICE, NOMI SUNRIDER... AND HER DAUGHTER VIMA.
NOMI IS READY TO LEARN HOW TO CONSTRUCT THE LIGHTSABER.
Hmmm. THE FORCE TELLS ME THAT NOMI SUNRIDER CAN BE A GREAT JEDI...
...IF SHE LISTENS TO THE FORCE.
AND SO THE LITTLE ONE... ALSO A GREAT JEDI.

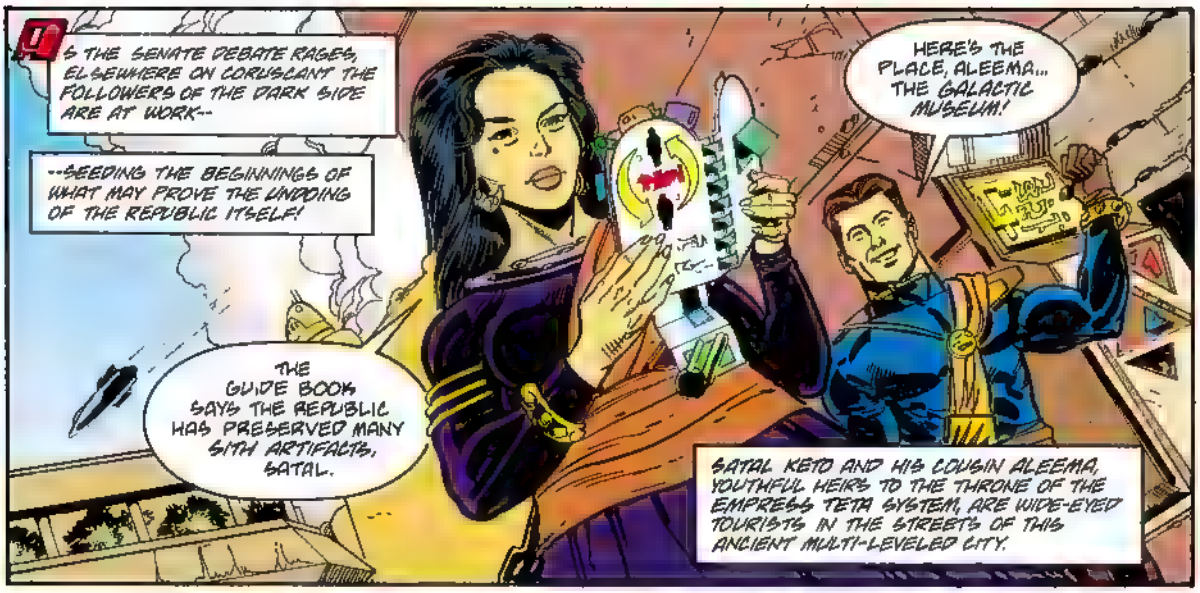

HON TAKES VIMA TO PLAY WITH OTHER CHILDREN OF JEDI AND NOMI BEGINS HER INSTRUCTION.
HERE IS ANOTHER BEGINNER, SHOANEB CULU OF ALPHERIDIES.
SHOANEB IS VERY DEXTEROUS... ALTHOUGH SHE ONLY SEES IN THE FORCE.
MASTER VODO... I THINK I RUINED THIS CRYSTAL.
I'M SORRY, MASTER VODO.
I CUT IT AT THE WRONG ANGLE
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT...IT WAS A FLAWED SPECIMEN.
TAKE ANOTHER AND START OVER.
YOU CAN HAVE ONE OF MINE, SHOANEB.
I HAVE FAR MORE THAN I NEED!
Ohhh... PONTITES... THE RAREST KIND.
WHERE DID YOU GET THEM?
MY HUSBAND...ANDUR... GAVE THEM TO ME.
ANDUR SUNRIDER? I KNEW HIM WELL.
THEY SAY HE'S WITH THE LIGHT!

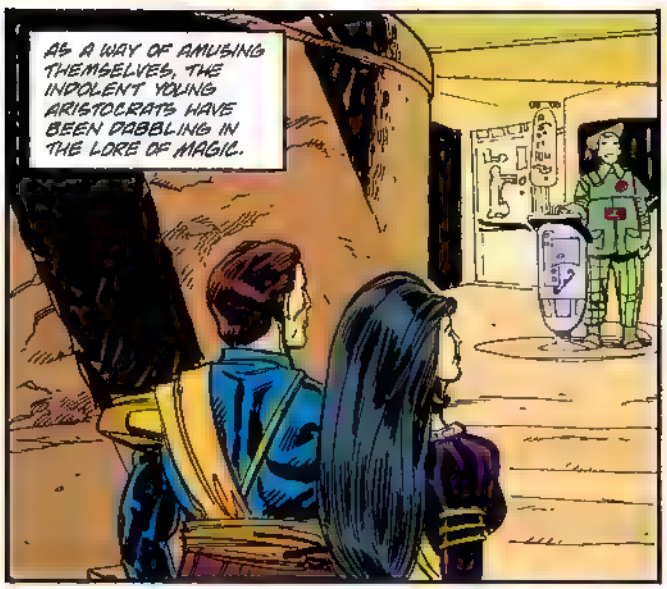

YES. MY HUSBAND WAS MURDERED BY THIEVES.
BUT AS MASTER THON SAYS, OUT OF GREAT LOSS, A NEW LIFE CAN BE BORN.
I AM A JEDI NOW.
THROUGHOUT A LONG AND ENJOYABLE WEEK, NOMI WORKS ON HER LIGHTSABER, INSTRUCTED BY WISE OLD VODO-SIOSK BAAS.
DURING THE FIRST MONTHS OF HER APPRENTICESHIP NOMI RESISTED THON'S URGINGS TO TAKE UP THE JEDI WEAPON... BUT SHE NOW UNDERSTANDS MANY THINGS THAT WERE HIDDEN BEFORE.
A LIGHTSABER IS NOT ONLY A WEAPON OF WAR... IT IS ONE OF THE WAYS A JEDI CONTACTS THE FORCE.
EXCELLENT... NOW LET'S SEE IF IT WORKS!
AS NOMI GUNRIDER TOUCHES ITS ACTIVATOR, A POWERFUL ENERGY BEAM PULSES FROM THE NEWLY CONSTRUCTED LIGHTSABER
TURRUUM
MMMM
NOMI TAKES SATISFACTION IN KNOWING THAT THIS WEAPON CONTAINS THE VERY CRYSTAL ANDUR WAS BRINGING TO MASTER THON ON THE DAY HE WAS MURDERED.


DURING THE WEEKS THAT FOLLOW, NOMI ADVANCES RAPIDLY IN THE JEDI WAY...UNTIL ONE DAY A FATEFUL ASSEMBLY IS CALLED--
JEDI MASTER ARLA HAS FALLEN TO SITH SORCERY ON ONDERON.
A TEAM OF JEDI KNIGHTS IS NEEDED TO HELP RESCUE HIM.
THE ENTIRE ASSEMBLY VOLUNTEERS FOR THE ASSIGNMENT--
--BUT ONLY FIVE JEDI ARE CHOSEN--
DACE...SHOANEB CLULU... GRRRL TOQ...KITH KARK...
...AND NOMI SUNRIDER.
MASTER THON CONGRATULATES NOMI. "SURELY THIS IS A SIGN," HE TELLS HER... "YOUR SPIRIT IS RUSHING TOWARD DESTINY!"
NOMI'S CHILD, VIMA, WILL BE QUITE SAFE AMONG HER NEWFOUND FRIENDS ON THE JEDI WORLD--
--WHILE NOMI AND HER COMPANIONS JOURNEY ACROSS THE GALAXY TO ONDERON, TO TAKE UP ARMS AGAINST THE DARK SIDERS!

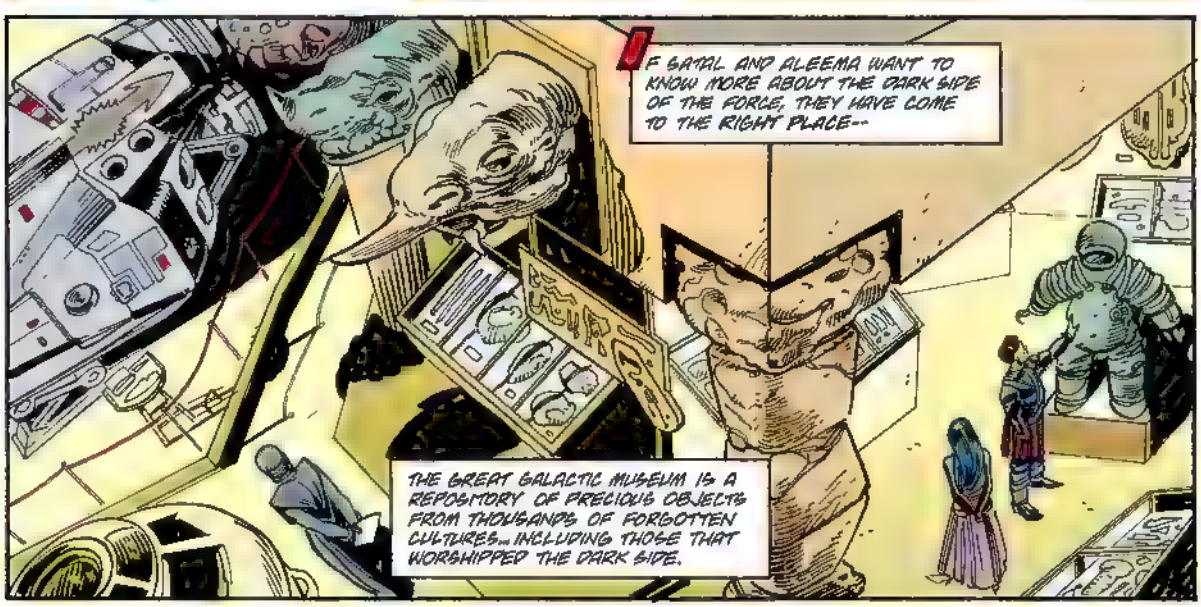

REPUBLIC CITY.
--A SPRAWLING METROPOLIS BLANKETING THE ENTIRE SURFACE OF THE PLANET CORUSCANT.
WARMED ONLY BY A SMALL WHITE SUN, THE OLDEST AND DENSEST POPULATION CENTERS CLUSTER NEAR THE EQUATOR. THESE SECTORS CONSIST OF LAYER BUILT UPON LAYER, A GREAT HIVE OF INTELLIGENT SPECIES FROM EVERY PART OF THE GALAXY.
REPUBLIC CITY IS THE CORE WORLD WHERE THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE EVER-EXPANDING DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC DISPENSES LAWS AND DECREES TO THE ENTIRE GALAXY--
IN THE DEFENSE MINISTERS' CHAMBERS, A COMMITTEE OF SENATORS IS DEBATING THE MERITS OF ULIC QEL-DROMA'S CALL FOR ASSISTANCE.

MY FELLOW SENATORS...THE SITUATION ON ONDERON IS DETERIORATING.
WE HAVE BEEN ASKED FOR ASSISTANCE.
I SUGGEST THAT THE REPUBLIC FLEET MOVE AT ONCE.
QUELLING CIVIL UNREST IS ONE THING, METUS...
...GOING UP AGAINST THE DARK SIDE IS ANOTHER.
THIS IS A MATTER FOR THE JEDI THEMSELVES TO RESOLVE.
I DISAGREE!

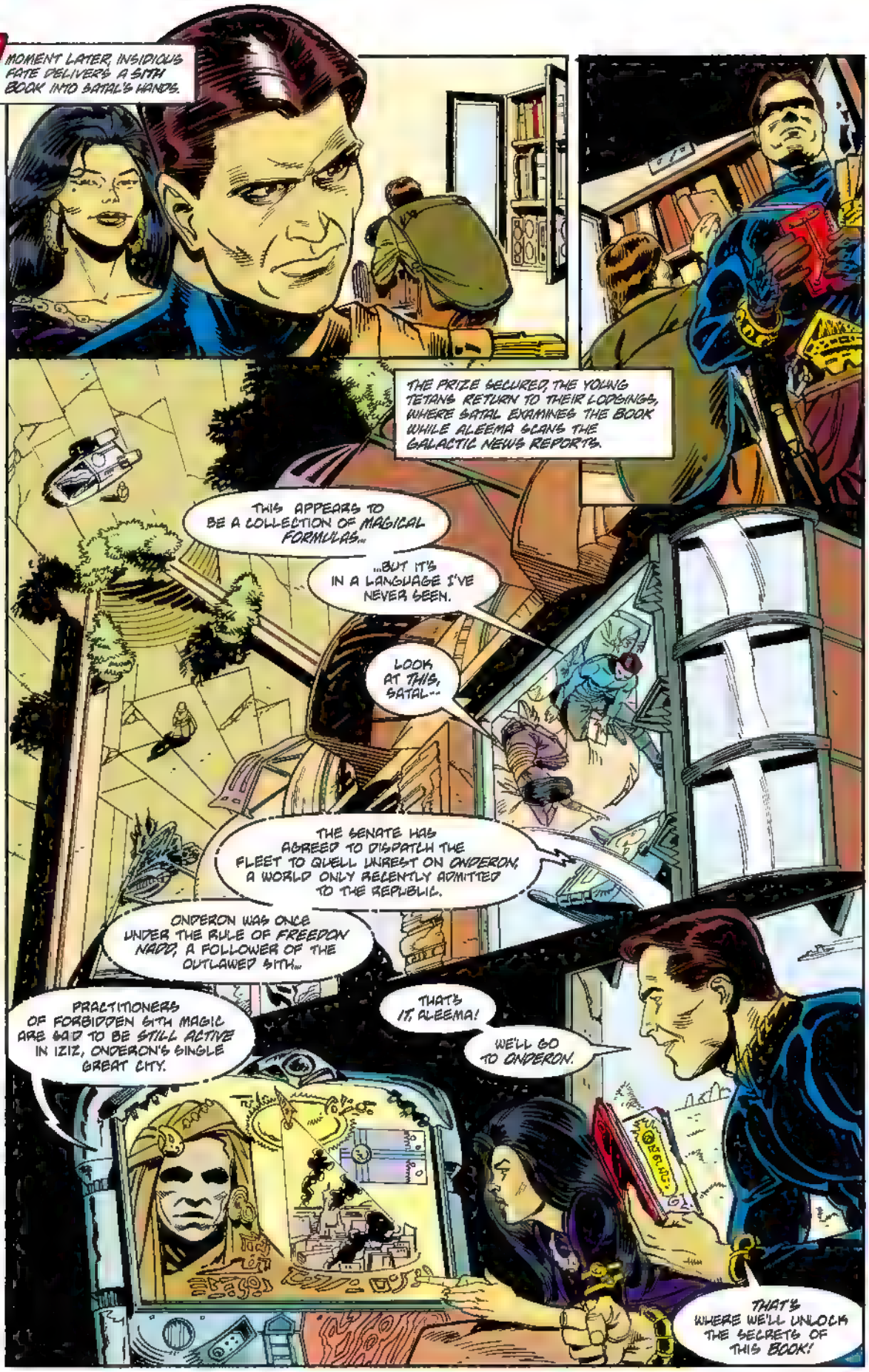

AS THE SENATE DEBATE RAGES, ELSEWHERE ON CORUSCANT THE FOLLOWERS OF THE DARK SIDE ARE AT WORK--
--SEEDING THE BEGINNINGS OF WHAT MAY PROVE THE UNDOING OF THE REPUBLIC ITSELF!
THE GUIDE BOOK SAYS THE REPUBLIC HAS PRESERVED MANY SITH ARTIFACTS, SATAL.
HERE'S THE PLACE, ALEEMA... THE GALACTIC MUSEUM!
SATAL KETO AND HIS COUSIN ALEEMA, YOUTHFUL HEIRS TO THE THRONE OF THE EMPRESS TETA SYSTEM, ARE WIDE-EYED TOURISTS IN THE STREETS OF THIS ANCIENT MULTI-LEVELED CITY.

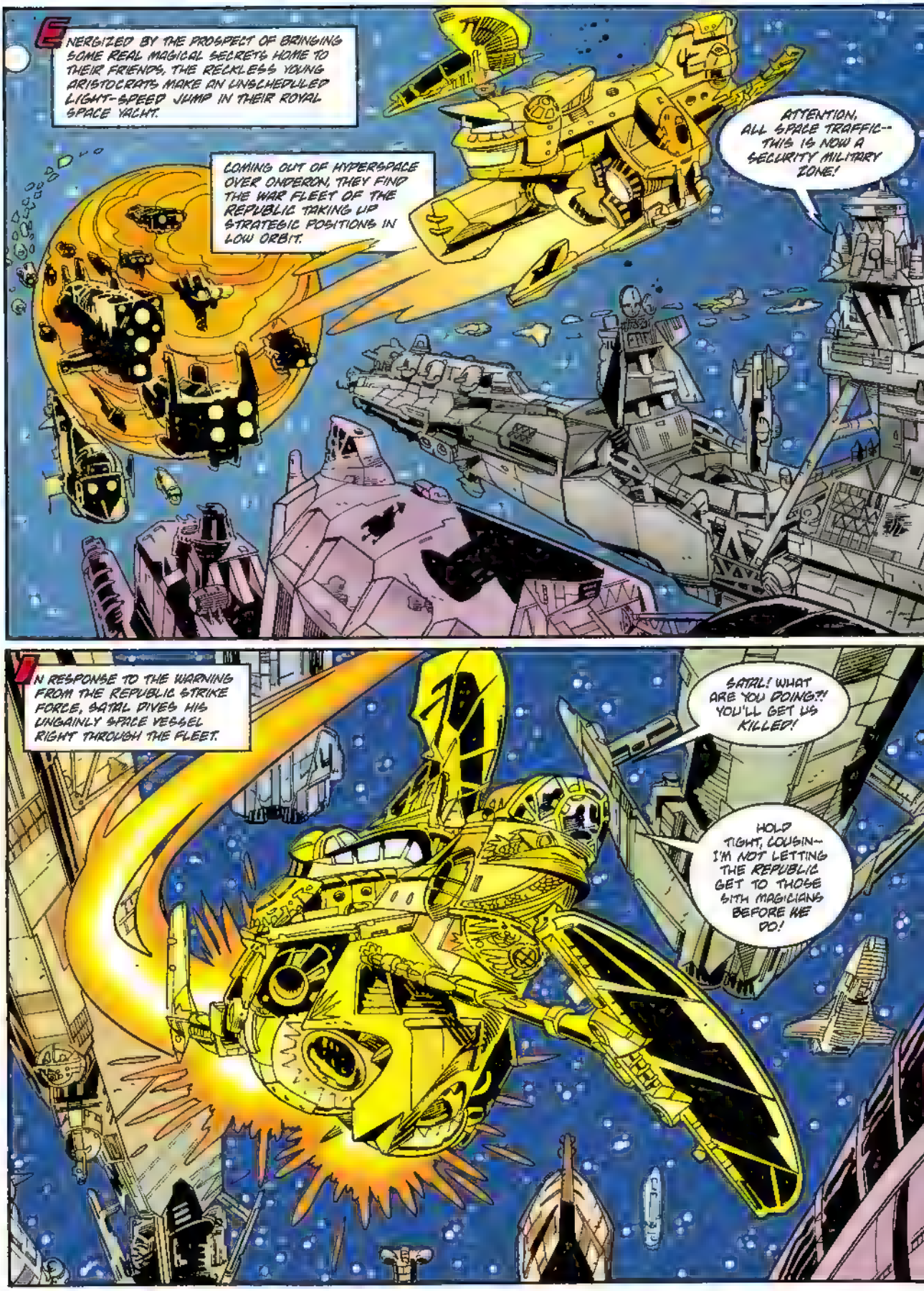

AS A WAY OF AMUSING THEMSELVES, THE INDOLENT YOUNG ARISTOCRATS HAVE BEEN DABBLING IN THE LORE OF MAGIC.

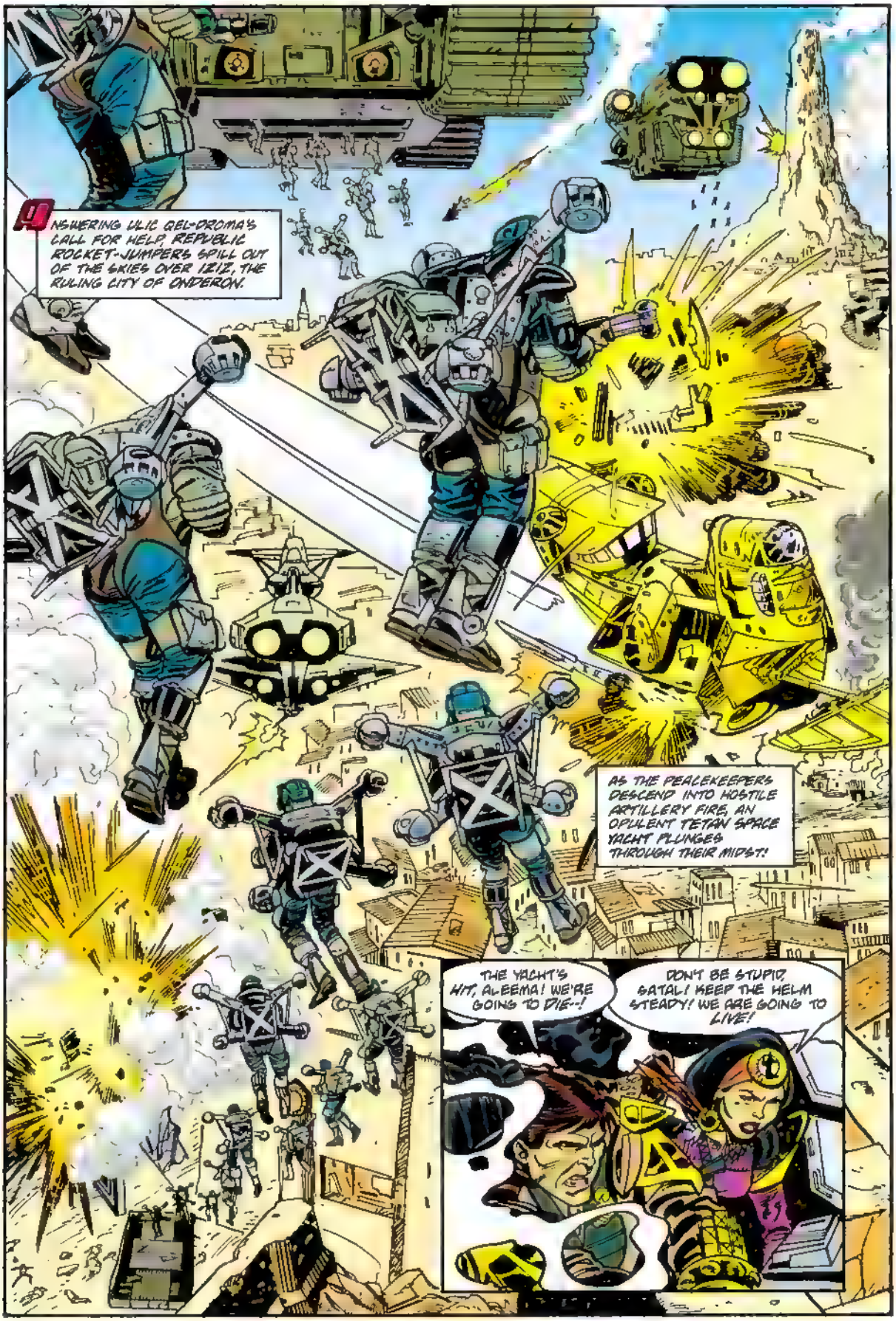
ALONG WITH THEIR FRIENDS, THEY HAVE FORMED A SECRET SOCIETY THEY CALL "THE KRATH," AFTER AN EVIL MAGICIAN-GOD FROM THE FAIRY TALES THEY LEARNED AS CHILDREN.


IF SATAL AND ALEEMA WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE DARK SIDE OF THE FORCE, THEY HAVE COME TO THE RIGHT PLACE--
THE GREAT GALACTIC MUSEUM IS A REPOSITORY OF PRECIOUS OBJECTS FROM THOUSANDS OF FORGOTTEN CULTURES... INCLUDING THOSE THAT WORSHIPPED THE DARK SIDE.

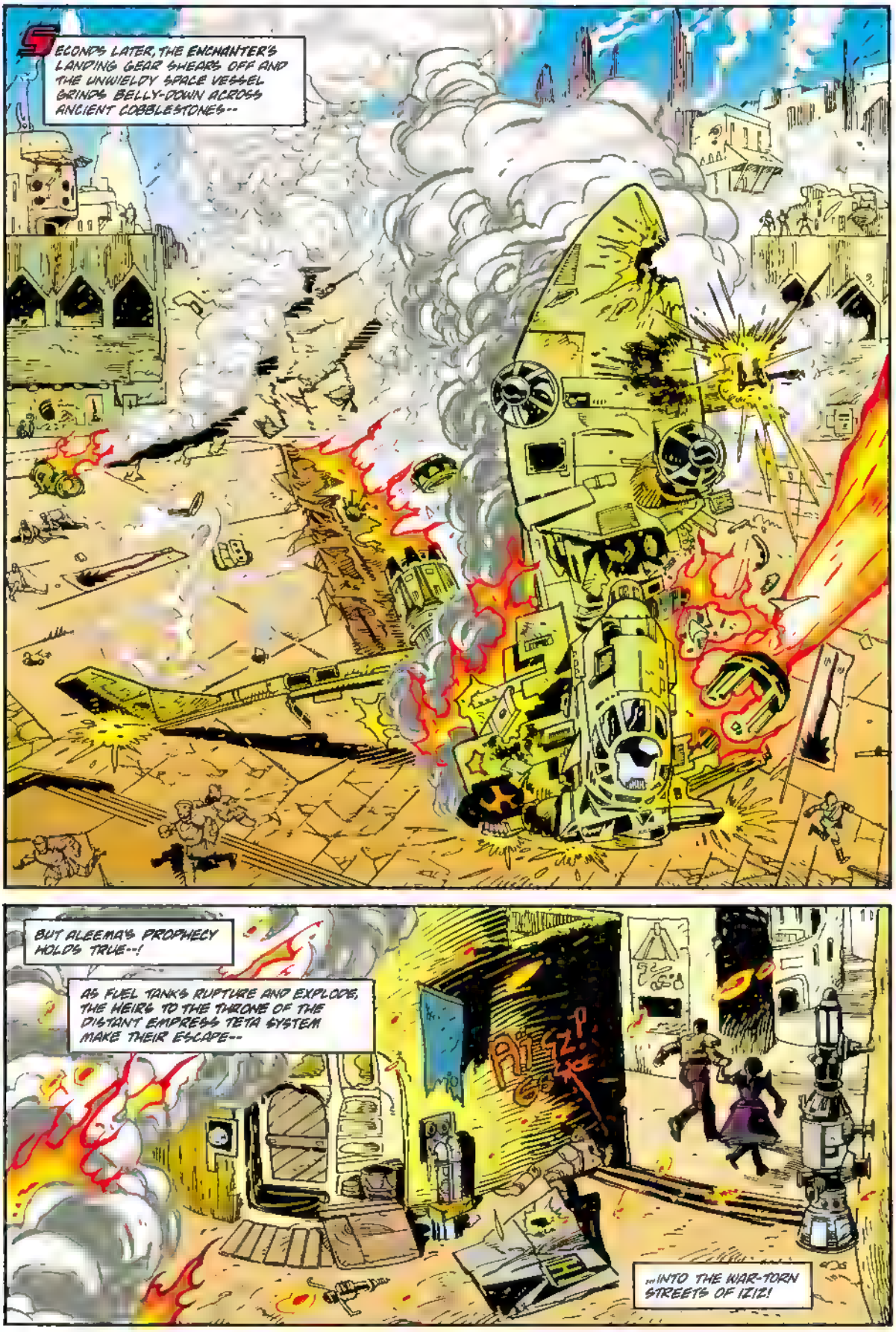
OUTLAWED FOR THEIR EVIL PRACTICES, THE SITH CIVILIZATION LONG AGO VANISHED INTO OBSCURITY
THE END OF THE SITH PEOPLE ALSO MARKED THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THEIR DARK LORDS.
AMAZING! IT SAYS JEDI KNIGHTS WHO TURNED TO THE DARK SIDE BECAME RULERS OF THE SITH.
THEY BEGAN A LINEAGE PASSING THE THRONE FROM ONE GENERATION TO THE NEXT.
I'D LIKE TO BE LIKE HIM... WOULDN'T YOU?
AS SATAL AND ALEEMA EXPLORE "SITH HALL," THEY FIND A DISPLAY OF AMULETS AND TALISMANS STILL POTENT WITH THE DARK SIDE.
THERE'S POWER IN THESE THINGS, SATAL.
YES... I WONDER IF ANYONE BUT US CAN FEEL IT.
SATAL IS SEIZED BY AN URGE TO POSSESS SOMETHING CREATED BY THE SITH--

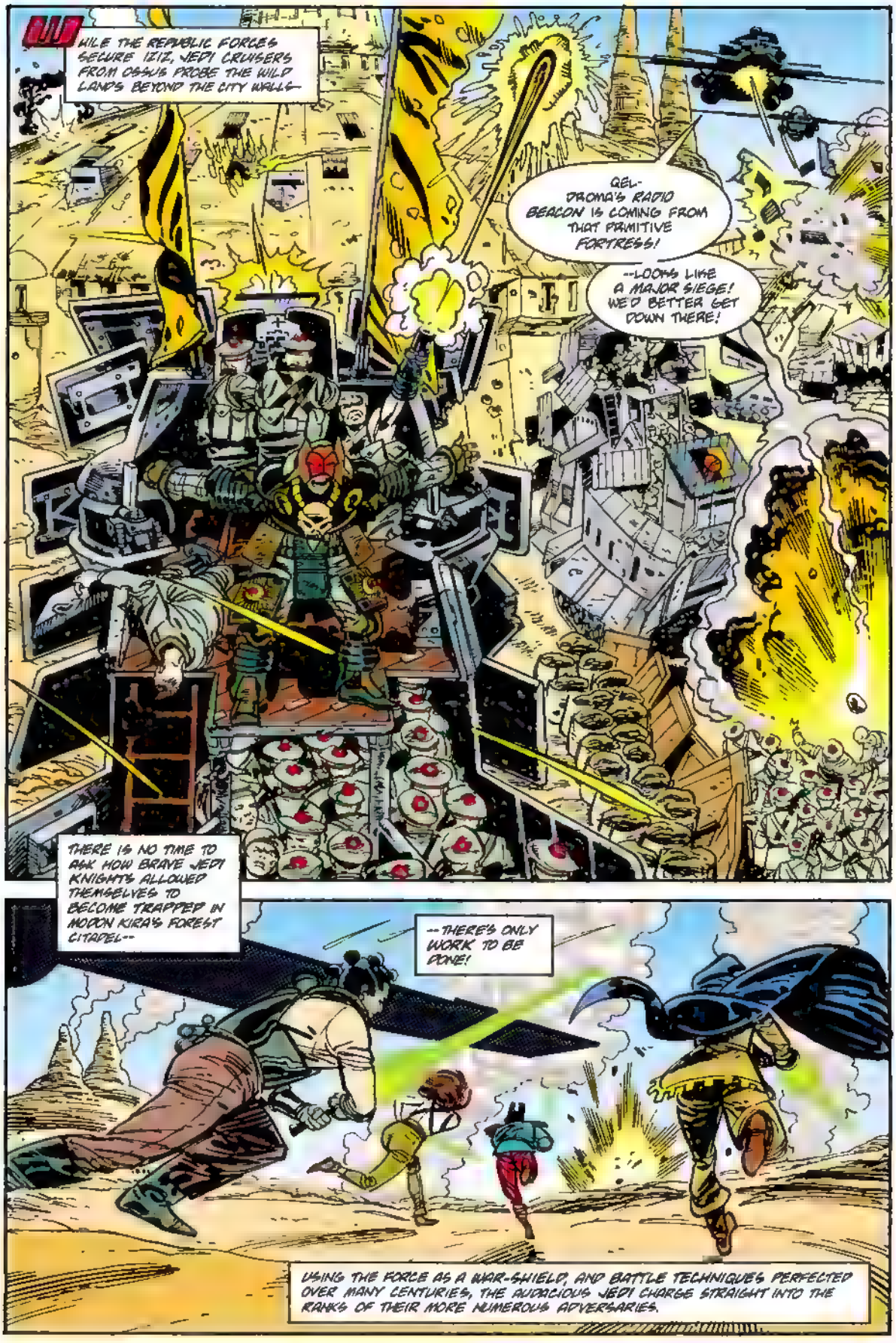

A MOMENT LATER, INSIDIOUS FATE DELIVERS A SITH BOOK INTO SATAL'S HANDS.
THE PRIZE SECURED, THE YOUNG TETANS RETURN TO THEIR LODGINGS, WHERE SATAL EXAMINES THE BOOK WHILE ALEEMA SCANS THE GALACTIC NEWS REPORTS.
THIS APPEARS TO BE A COLLECTION OF MAGICAL FORMULAS...
...BUT IT'S IN A LANGUAGE I'VE NEVER SEEN.
LOOK AT THIS, SATAL--
THE SENATE HAS AGREED TO DISPATCH THE FLEET TO QUELL UNREST ON ONDERON, A WORLD ONLY RECENTLY ADMITTED TO THE REPUBLIC.
ONDERON WAS ONCE UNDER THE RULE OF FREEDON NADD, A FOLLOWER OF THE OUTLAWED SITH...
PRACTITIONERS OF FORBIDDEN SITH MAGIC ARE SAID TO BE STILL ACTIVE IN IZIZ, ONDERON'S SINGLE GREAT CITY.
THAT'S IT, ALEEMA!
WE'LL GO TO ONDERON.
THAT'S WHERE WE'LL UNLOCK THE SECRETS OF THIS BOOK!


ENERGIZED BY THE PROSPECT OF BRINGING SOME REAL MAGICAL SECRETS HOME TO THEIR FRIENDS, THE RECKLESS YOUNG ARISTOCRATS MAKE AN UNSCHEDULED LIGHT-SPEED JUMP IN THEIR ROYAL SPACE YACHT.
COMING OUT OF HYPERSPACE OVER ONDERON, THEY FIND THE WAR FLEET OF THE REPUBLIC TAKING UP STRATEGIC POSITIONS IN LOW ORBIT.
ATTENTION, ALL SPACE TRAFFIC-- THIS IS NOW A SECURITY MILITARY ZONE!
IN RESPONSE TO THE WARNING FROM THE REPUBLIC STRIKE FORCE, SATAL DIVES HIS UNGAINLY SPACE VESSEL RIGHT THROUGH THE FLEET.
SATAL! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! YOU'LL GET US KILLED!
HOLD TIGHT, COUSIN-- I'M NOT LETTING THE REPUBLIC GET TO THOSE SITH MAGICIANS BEFORE WE DO!

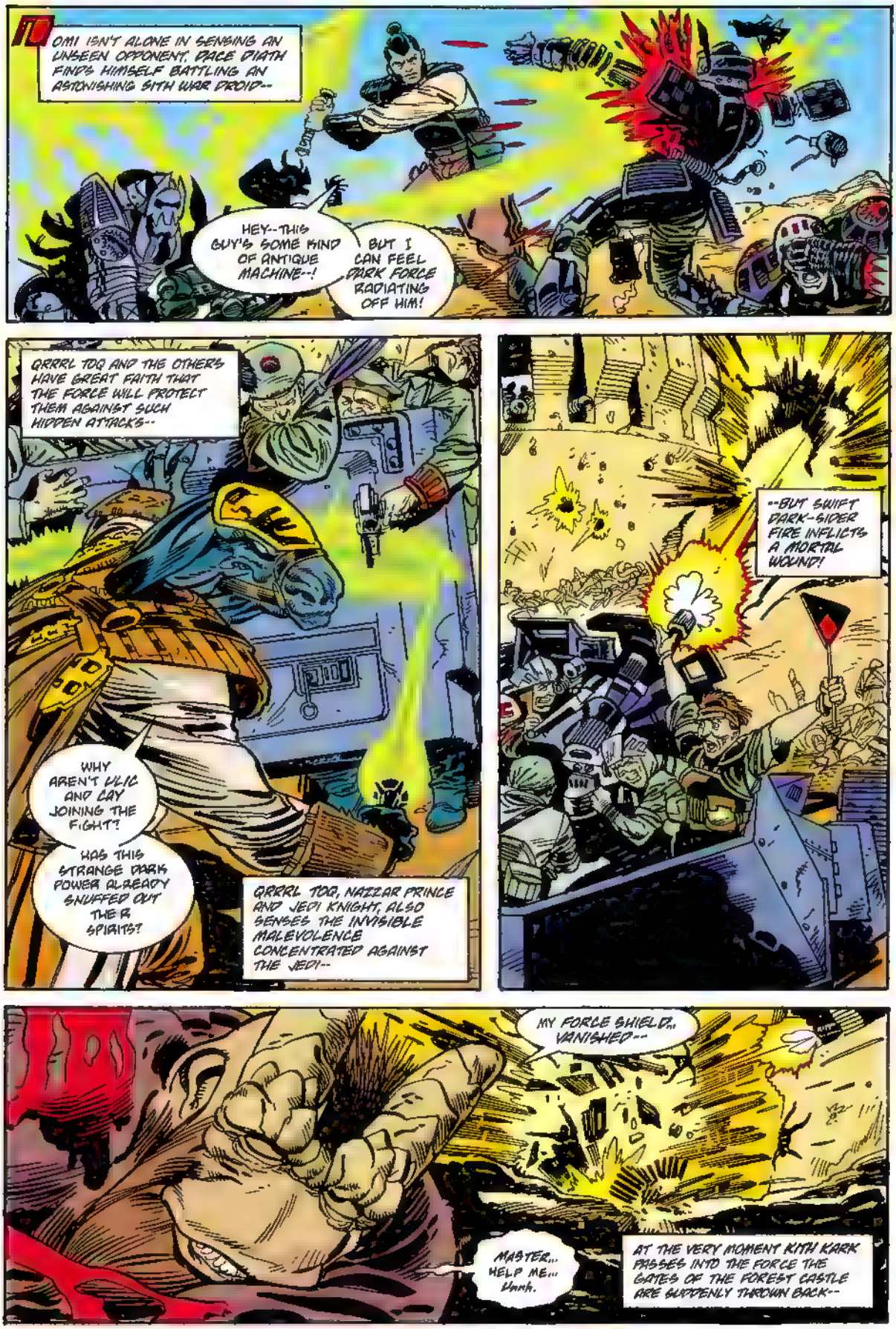

ANSWERING ULIC QEL-DROMA'S CALL FOR HELP, REPUBLIC ROCKET-JUMPERS SPILL OUT OF THE SKIES OVER IZIZ, THE RULING CITY OF ONDERON.
AS THE PEACEKEEPERS DESCEND INTO HOSTILE ARTILLERY FIRE, AN OPULENT TETAN SPACE YACHT PLUNGES THROUGH THEIR MIDST!
THE YACHT'S HIT, ALEEMA! WE'RE GOING TO DIE--!
DON'T BE STUPID, GATAL! KEEP THE HELM STEADY! WE ARE GOING TO LIVE!

KATAL KETO BARELY MANAGES TO PREVENT THE KRATH ENCHANTER FROM ROLLING AS THE UNGAINLY SHIP ACCELERATES TOWARD THE PLANET'S SURFACE--
--AND THEN THE ROYAL YACHT IS HIT AGAIN!
REPULSOR SYSTEMS ARE GONE!
THIS IS IT! THIS IS THE END!
THIS IS NOT THE END!
CAN'T YOU FEEL IT? THERE IS POWER HERE... WAITING FOR US.
I TELL YOU WE WILL BECOME INVINCIBLE!


SECONDS LATER, THE ENCHANTER'S LANDING GEAR SHEARS OFF AND THE UNWIELDY SPACE VESSEL GRINDS BELLY-DOWN ACROSS ANCIENT COBBLESTONES--
BUT ALEEMA'S PROPHECY HOLDS TRUE--!
AS FUEL TANKS RUPTURE AND EXPLODE, THE HEIRS TO THE THRONE OF THE DISTANT EMPRESS TETA SYSTEM MAKE THEIR ESCAPE--
...INTO THE WAR-TORN STREETS OF IZIZ!


WHILE THE REPUBLIC FORCES SECURE IZIZ, JEDI CRUISERS FROM OSSUS PROBE THE WILD LANDS BEYOND THE CITY WALLS--
QEL-DROMA'S RADIO BEACON IS COMING FROM THAT PRIMITIVE FORTRESS!
--LOOKS LIKE A MAJOR SIEGE! WE'D BETTER GET DOWN THERE!
THERE IS NO TIME TO ASK HOW BRAVE JEDI KNIGHTS ALLOWED THEMSELVES TO BECOME TRAPPED IN MOOON KIRA'S FOREST CITADEL--
--THERE'S ONLY WORK TO BE DONE!
USING THE FORCE AS A WAR-SHIELD, AND BATTLE TECHNIQUES PERFECTED OVER MANY CENTURIES, THE AUDACIOUS JEDI CHARGE STRAIGHT INTO THE RANKS OF THEIR MORE NUMEROUS ADVERSARIES.

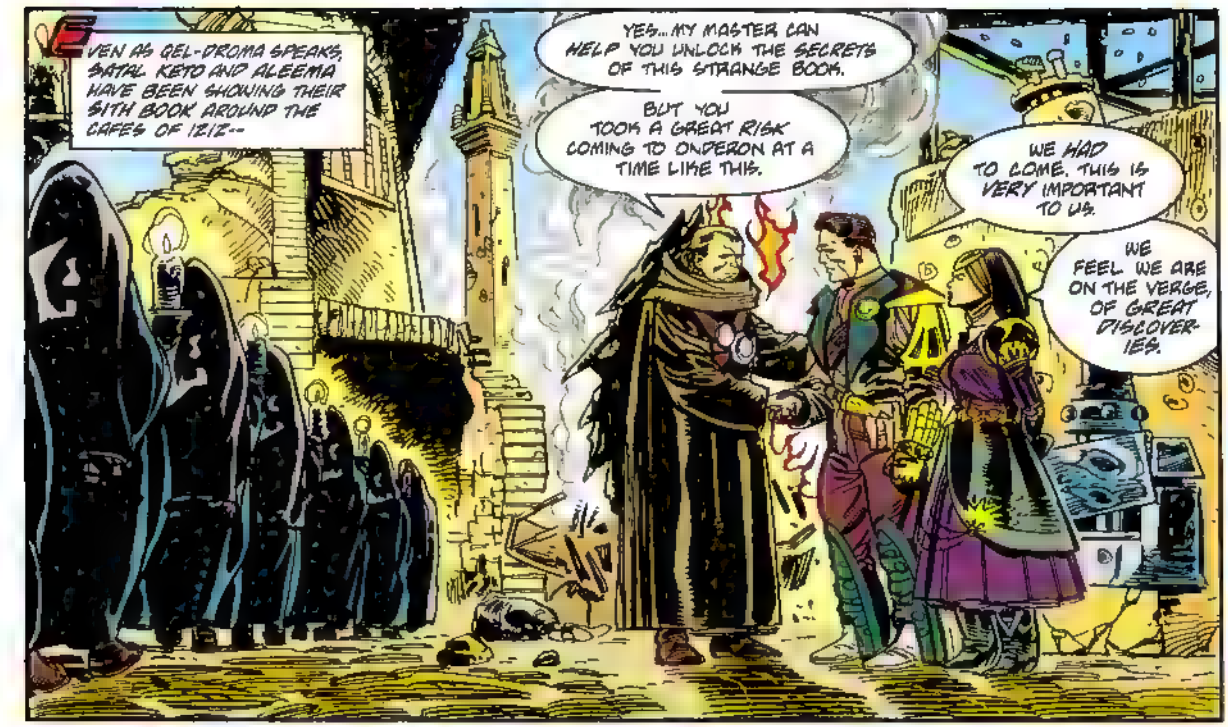
JEDI KNIGHTS, KITH KARK, DALE DIATH, AND QRERL TOQ WIELD THEIR LIGHTSABERS WITH FEARLESS EFFECTIVENESS.
STRAIGHT THROUGH TO THE GATE, DALE!
AND MAY THE FORCE PROTECT US!
I'M RIGHT BEHIND YOU, KITH!
SHOANES CULU, A MIRALUKA JEDI, DEMONSTRATES UNCANNY ABILITY WITH THE LIGHTSABER!
THE MIRALUKA OF ALPHERIDIES ARE BORN WITHOUT EYES--BUT SEE EVERYTHING...IN THE FORCE!
AND NOMI SUNRIDER--A JEDI ONLY A FEW SHORT MONTHS--IS ALREADY ADEPT IN BATTLE SKILLS SHE LEARNED ON OSSUS.
BUT NOMI'S GREATEST TALENT, IS THE INTERNAL VISUALIZATION SHE USED TO DEFEAT MASTER THON'S ENEMIES ON AMBRIA!
THAT'S STRANGE--HOW CAN IT BE? AN ENERGY FIELD IS BLOCKING MY JEDI BATTLE MEDITATION!

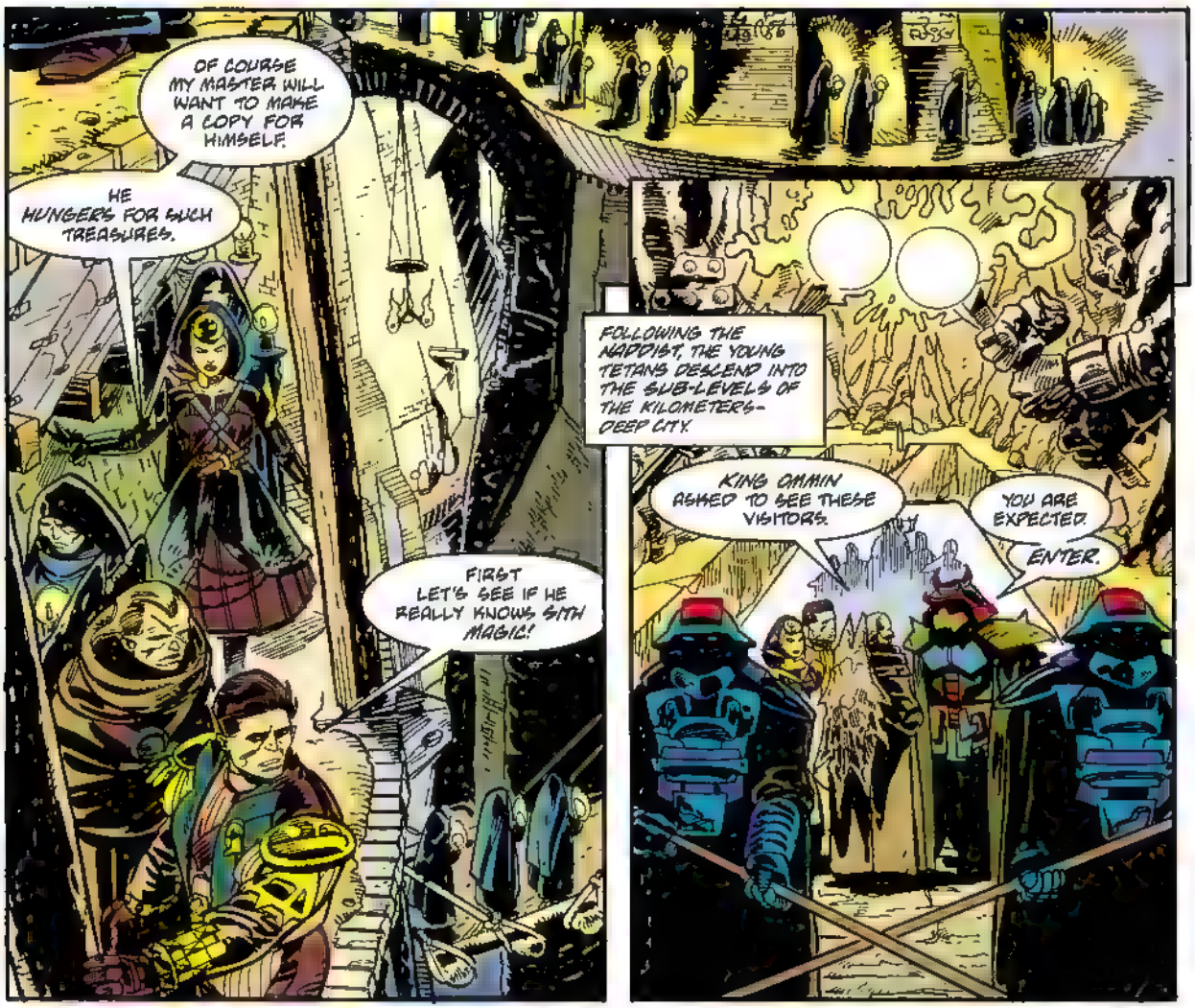

TOMI ISN'T ALONE IN SENSING AN UNSEEN OPPONENT. DACE DIATH FINDS HIMSELF BATTLING AN ASTONISHING SITH WAR DROID--
HEY--THIS GUY'S SOME KIND OF ANTIQUE MACHINE--!
BUT I CAN FEEL DARK FORCE RADIATING OFF HIM!
QRRRL TOQ AND THE OTHER'S HAVE GREAT FAITH THAT THE FORCE WILL PROTECT THEM AGAINST SUCH HIDDEN ATTACKS--
WHY AREN'T VLIC AND CAY JOINING THE FIGHT?
HAS THIS STRANGE DARK POWER ALREADY SNUFFED OUT THEIR SPIRITS?
QRRRL TOQ, NAZIAR PRINCE AND JEDI KNIGHT, ALSO SENSES THE INVISIBLE MALEVOLENCE CONCENTRATED AGAINST THE JEDI--
--BUT SWIFT DARK-SIDER FIRE INFLICTS A MORTAL WOUND!
MY FORCE SHIELD... VANISHED--
MASTER... HELP ME... Uuuh.
AT THE VERY MOMENT KITH KARK PASSES INTO THE FORCE THE GATES OF THE FOREST CASTLE ARE SUDDENLY THROWN BACK--

--AND A HAGGARD BAND OF JEDI WARRIORS EMERGE, FOLLOWED BY KODON KIRA'S MEN!
ULIC--WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU GUYS--?
WHY WEREN'T YOU FIGHTIN'?
THE DARK SIDE...IT'S EATING AT OUR LIFE FORCE...
SITH MAGIC IS AT WORK--
BUT FOR SOME REASON I'M FEELING A WHOLE LOT STRONGER NOW THAT MY FELLOW JEDI ARE HERE!
OR MONTHS OMMIN'S OPPRESSIVE SITH MAGIC HAS INFECTED THE WILL OF ARCA'S JEDI PEACE-KEEPERS... NOW THE BALANCE HAS SHIFTED--

As the battle rages, the Jedi get the upper hand--
But Nomi Sunrider finds herself under focused attack from the very presence that has crippled the spirits of Ulic and the others!
With her growing sensitivity to the inner working of the Force, it is almost more than she can handle.
I...see you...I know...what you are...
Something evil is watching her, and pressing dark intentions against her...
The confrontation in the Force is decisive--
--Nomi's adversary strikes with a serpent's swiftness!
AHHHHH!

AFFECTED BY THE SIGHT OF THE BEAUTIFUL YOUNG JEDI FELLED IN BATTLE, ULIC QEL-DROMA MOVES TO HER SIDE--
I SEE NO WOUNDS...
WHAT HIT YOU?
I...I'M ALL RIGHT...
SOMEONE VERY POWERFUL... LUNGED AT ME THROUGH THE FORCE, WHEN I TRIED TO MEDITATE THE FIGHT.
I SAW HIM... AN EMACIATED MAN ON A METAL ARMATURE.
THAT'LL BE KING OMMIN.
BUT NOW THAT YOU ARE HERE, WE HAVE THE STRENGTH TO STRIKE TOGETHER AT THE SOURCE OF THIS EVIL!


EVEN AS QEL-DROMA SPEAKS, SATAL KETO AND ALEEMA HAVE BEEN SHOWING THEIR SITH BOOK AROUND THE CAFES OF IZIZ--
YES...MY MASTER CAN HELP YOU UNLOCK THE SECRETS OF THIS STRANGE BOOK.
BUT YOU TOOK A GREAT RISK COMING TO ONDERON AT A TIME LIKE THIS.
WE HAD TO COME. THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT TO US.
WE FEEL WE ARE ON THE VERGE, OF GREAT DISCOVER-IES.

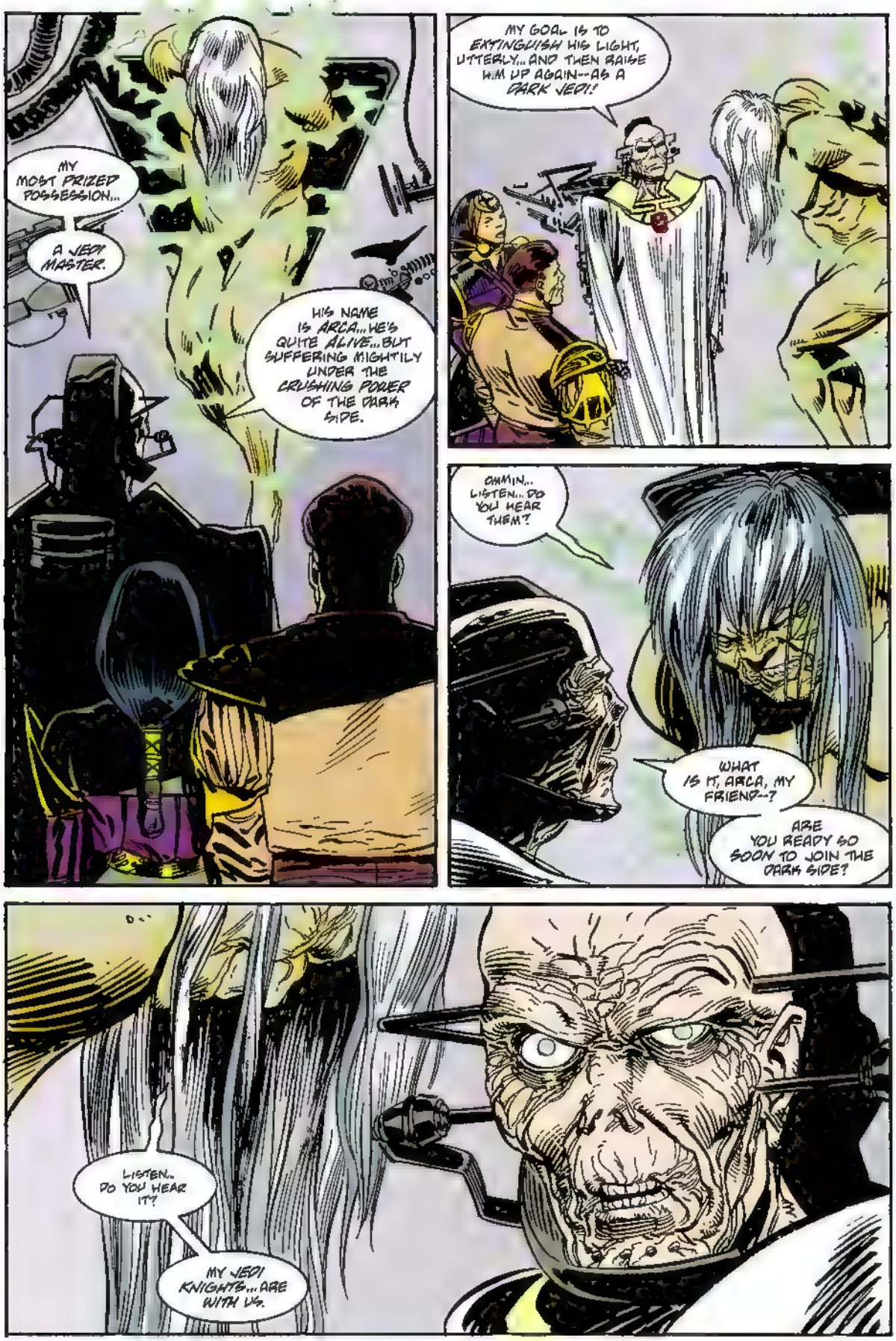

OF COURSE MY MASTER WILL WANT TO MAKE A COPY FOR HIMSELF.
HE HUNGERS FOR SUCH TREASURES.
FIRST LET'S SEE IF HE REALLY KNOWS SITH MAGIC!
FOLLOWING THE NAGGIST, THE YOUNG TETANS DESCEND INTO THE SUB-LEVELS OF THE KILOMETERS-DEEP CITY.
KING OMMIN ASKED TO SEE THESE VISITORS.
YOU ARE EXPECTED. ENTER.

THEY SAY YOU HAVE FOUND SITH TREASURES
WHAT GIFT HAVE YOU BROUGHT ME?

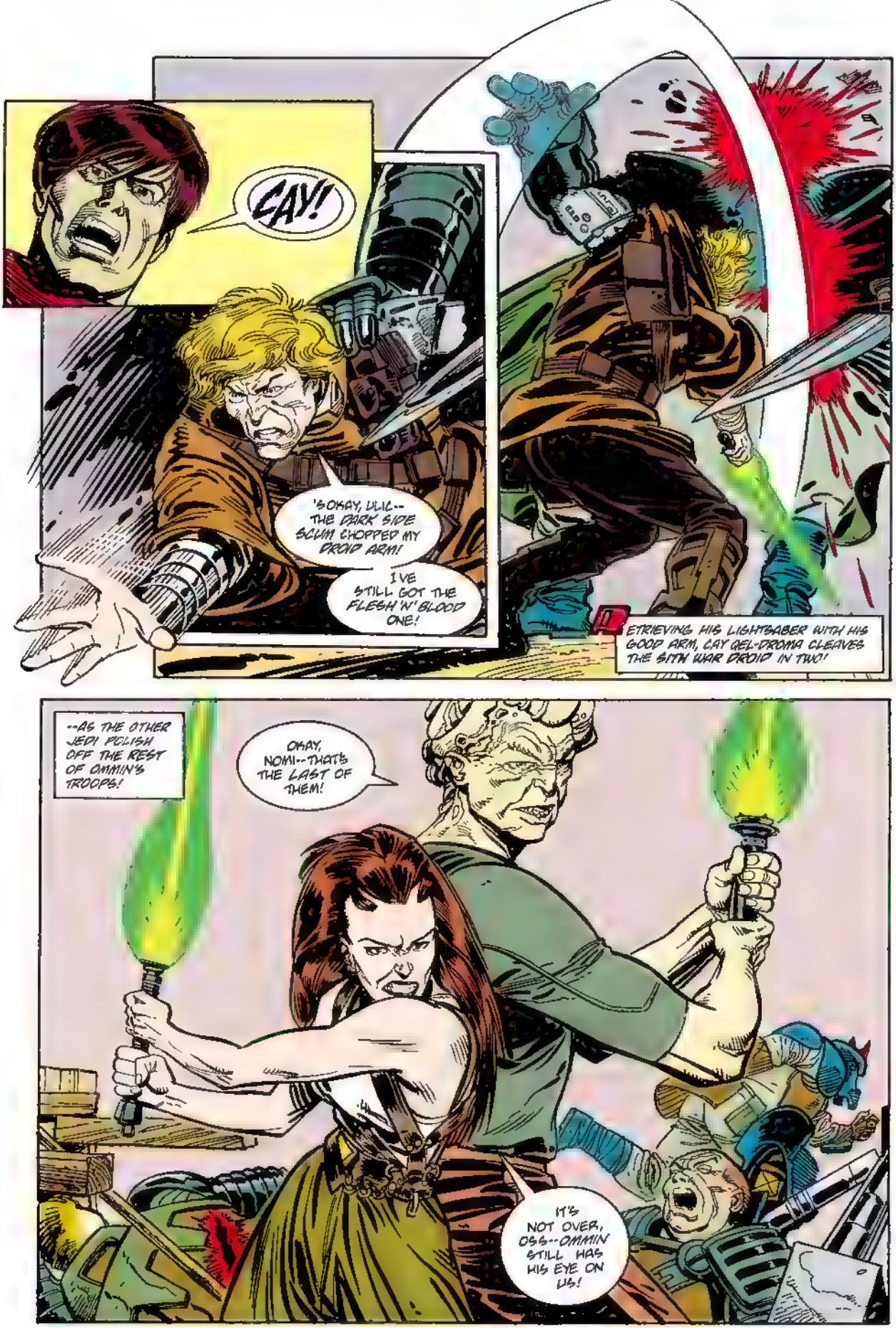
WE WERE TOLD YOU COULD HELP US...TO TRANSLATE THIS.

OF COURSE. DIDN'T THEY TELL YOU WHO I AM?
GIVE ME THE BOOK.
FIRST TELL ME WHY WE SHOULD TRUST YOU.
Ahh... SKEPTICAL YOUTH!
TRUST ME BECAUSE I SENSE A CAPACITY FOR KNOWLEDGE IN YOU!
& KING OMMIN GESTURES, SATAL'S MIND WHIRLS IN A DARK WIND.
YOUNG PEOPLE LIKE YOU WILL OVERSEE THE GREAT CHANGE THAT IS COMING--
HERE LET ME SHOW YOU MY WONDERFUL AMULETS--
THEY WERE LEFT TO ME BY MY ANCIENT FOREBEAR, FREEDON NADD.
ALEEMA... I FEEL SUDDENLY ILL.
YOU'RE SUCH A BABY, SATAL.
ALL I SENSE IS GREAT POWER THAT WANTS TO HELP US!
LOOK, MY YOUNG FRIEND--
THESE BAUBLES WERE CREATED BY THE ANCIENT SITH...
...TO CONCENTRATE THE POWER OF THE DARK SIDE.
WHEN I WISH TO READ THE ANCIENT SITH WRITINGS... I WEAR THIS.
PUT IT ON. GO AHEAD TRY IT!

DO WHAT HE SAYS, SATAL. THIS IS WHAT WE CAME FOR!
ALL... ALL RIGHT.
IDDY WITH THE SWIRLING ENERGIES OF THE DARK SIDE, SATAL IS IN NO MOOD TO REFUSE THE URGINGS OF HIS COUSIN.
BY THE EMPRESS! I.. I CAN READ IT PERFECTLY!
OF COURSE YOU CAN, MY SON.
SATAL KETO... I WILL GIVE YOU THIS WONDERFUL TALISMAN.
BUT FIRST YOU MUST LET ME MAKE A COPY OF THE BOOK
HERE, NOVAR... HAVE A SCRIBE COPY THIS AT ONCE.
I'LL DO IT MYSELF, LORD OMMIN.
WHILE WE WAIT, LET ME SHOW YOU SOMETHING ELSE I HAVE HUNGERED TO OWN FOR MANY YEARS--

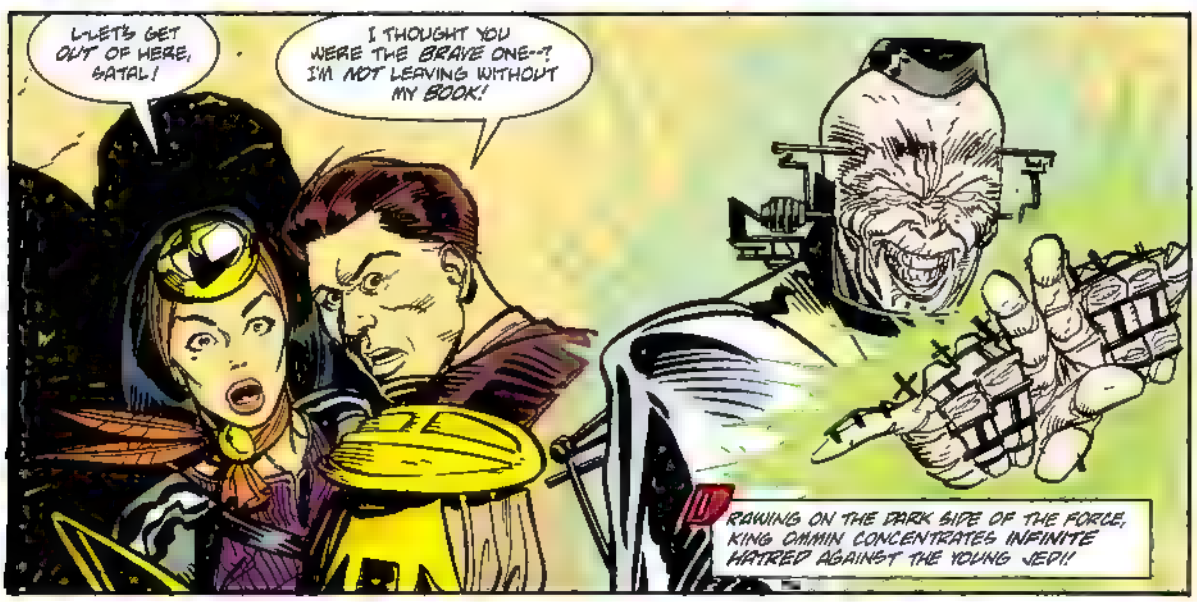

MY MOST PRIZED POSSESSION...
A JEDI MASTER.
HIS NAME IS ARCA... HE'S QUITE ALIVE... BUT SUFFERING MIGHTILY UNDER THE CRUSHING POWER OF THE DARK SIDE.
MY GOAL IS TO EXTINGUISH HIS LIGHT, UTTERLY... AND THEN RAISE HIM UP AGAIN--AS A DARK JEDI!
CHMIN... LISTEN... DO YOU HEAR THEM?
WHAT IS IT, ARCA, MY FRIEND--?
ARE YOU READY SO SOON TO JOIN THE DARK SIDE?
LISTEN... DO YOU HEAR IT?
MY JEDI KNIGHTS... ARE WITH US.

AT THAT MOMENT, IN THE COURTYARD OUTSIDE OMMIN'S SUBTERRANEAN LAIR, SEVEN BRAVE JEDI ARE TAKING ON A HUNDRED DARK SIDERS!
ARCA'S IN THERE!
HE'S BEING TORTURED--I CAN FEEL IT!
DRIVEN BY A CLEAR PERCEPTION OF THEIR MASTER'S PAIN, CAY AND ULIC QEL-DROMA LEAD THE CHARGE THROUGH THE PHALANX OF DARK-SIDE PROTECTORS AND WAR DROIDS--
ULIC... THIS PLACE... HAVE YOU EVER FELT SUCH EVIL GLOOM?
I'M WITH YOU, BROTHER--
Unnh!
MY ARM!
HOLD TO THE LIGHT CAY-- MASTER ARCA IS ALL THAT MATTERS!

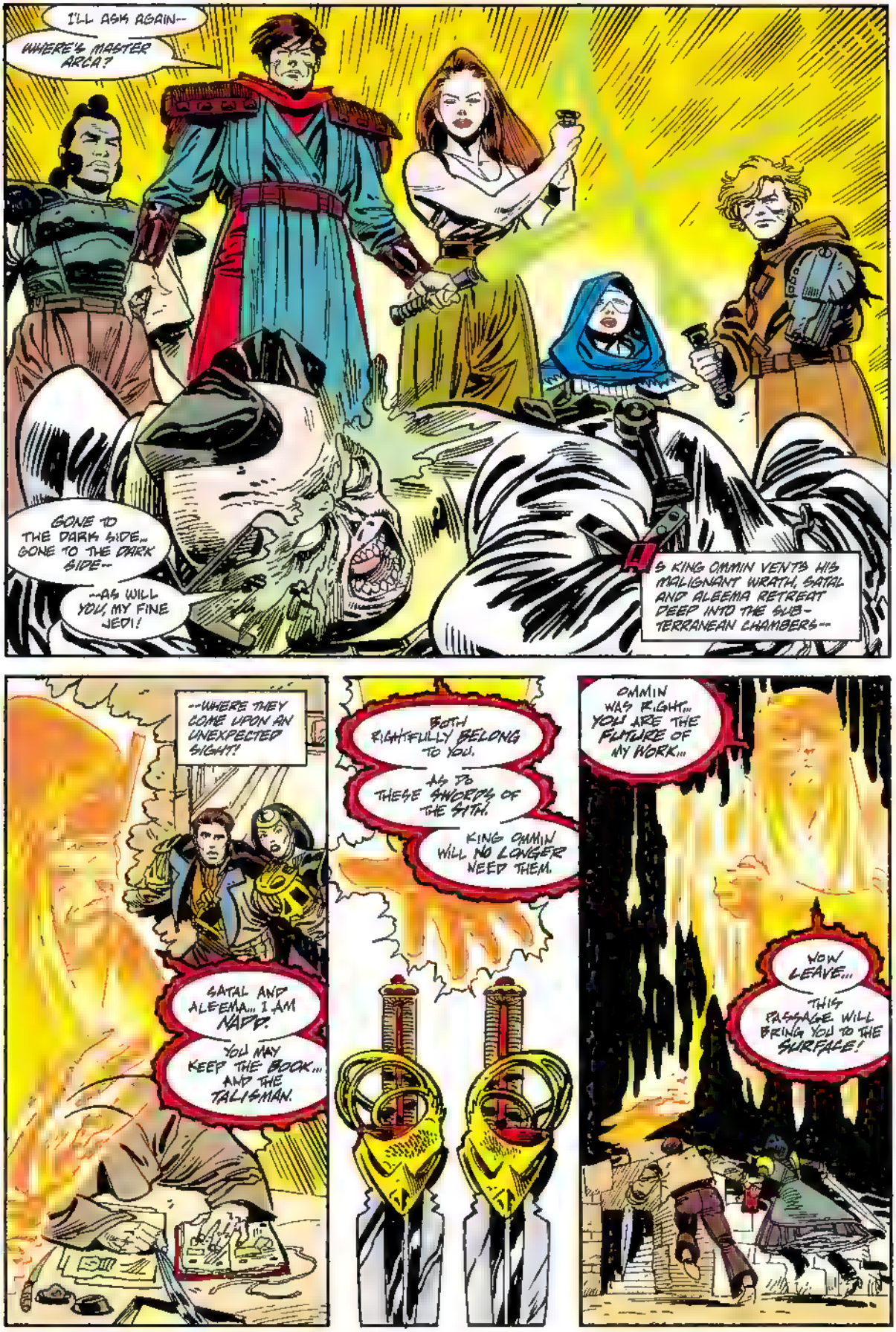

CAY!
'S OKAY, ULIC--THE DARK SIDE SCUM CHOPPED MY DROID ARM!
I'VE STILL GOT THE FLESH 'N' BLOOD ONE!
RETRIEVING HIS LIGHTSABER WITH HIS GOOD ARM, CAY QEL-DROMA CLEAVES THE SITH WAR DROID IN TWO!
--AS THE OTHER JEDI POLISH OFF THE REST OF OMMIN'S TROOPS!
OKAY, NOMI--THAT'S THE LAST OF THEM!
IT'S NOT OVER, OSS--OMMIN STILL HAS HIS EYE ON US!

YES, RECKLESS JEDI... I HAVE MY EYE ON YOU, AND MY POWER!
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH MASTER ARCA?!

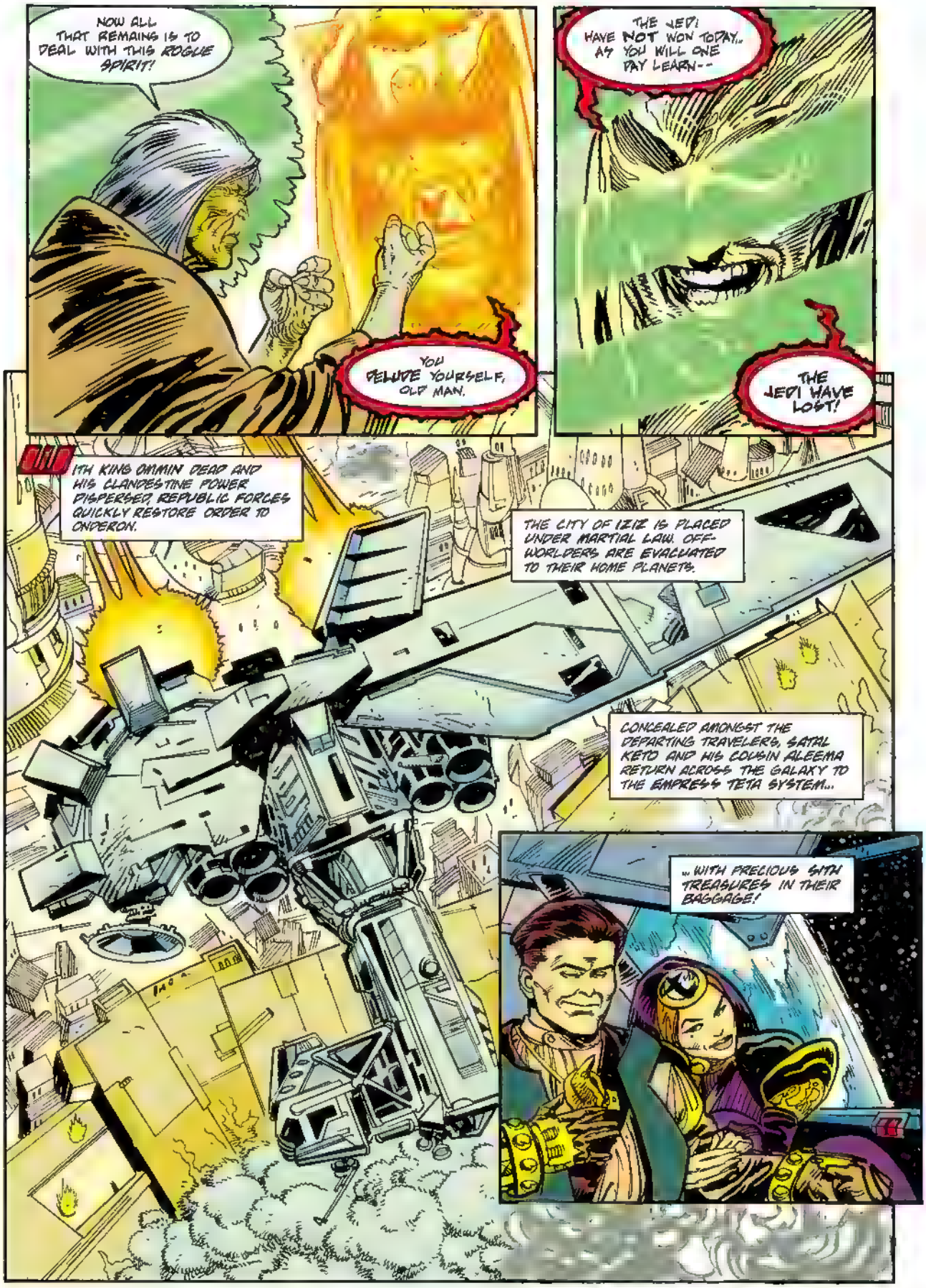
ARCA IS BEYOND SAVING-- HE HAS BEEN HUMBLED BY THE MIGHT OF THE ANCIENT SITH!
AND SO SHALL YOU!

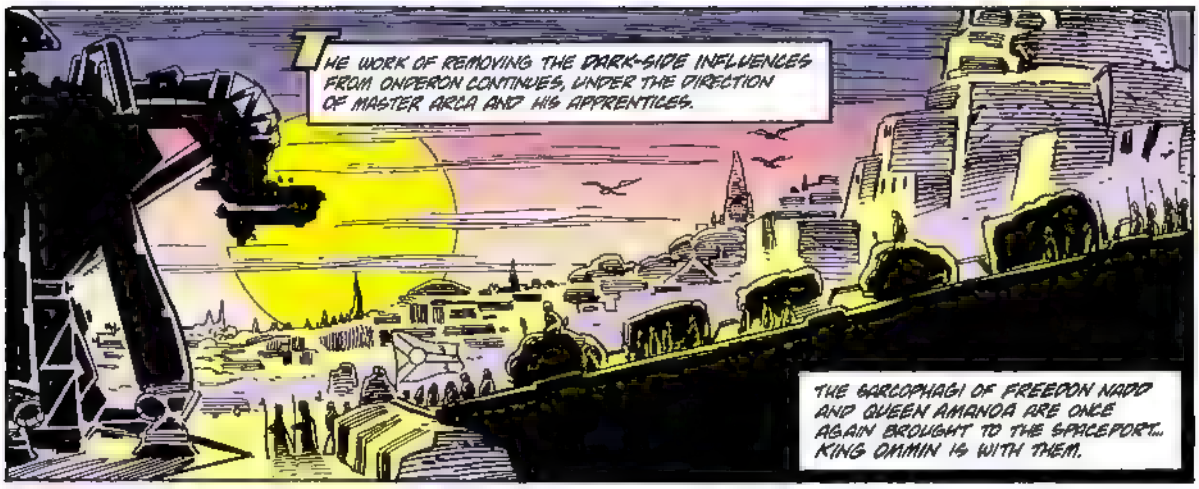

LET'S GET OUT OF HERE, GATAL!
I THOUGHT YOU WERE THE BRAVE ONE--? I'M NOT LEAVING WITHOUT MY BOOK!
DRAWING ON THE DARK SIDE OF THE FORCE, KING OMMIN CONCENTRATES INFINITE HATRED AGAINST THE YOUNG JEDI!

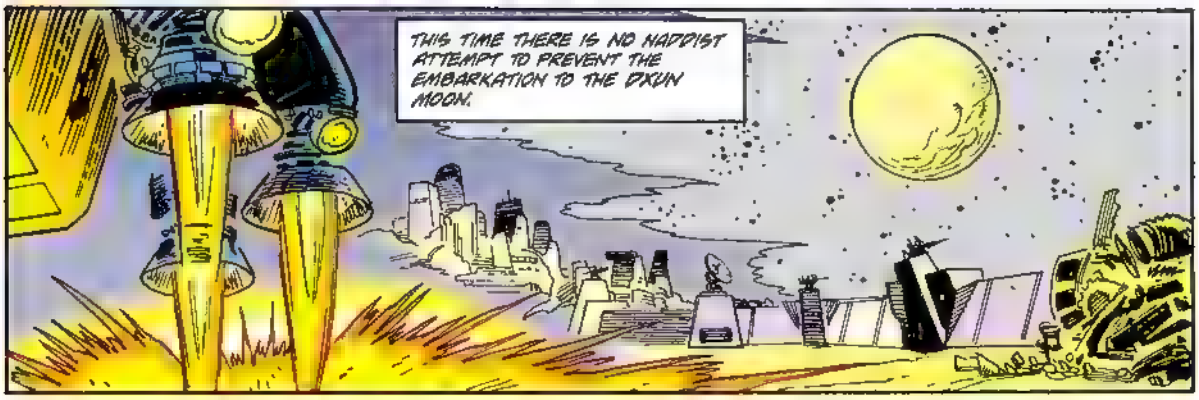
--WITH THE LIGHT SIDE OF THE FORCE AS HIS ALLY, ULIC QEL-DROMA SMASHES THROUGH THE DELUGE OF BALEFUL ENERGIES!
IT'S TIME TO PUT AN END TO YOU!
YOUR LIGHTSABER WON'T HELP YOU HERE, BRAVE JEDI!
BUT ULIC'S LIGHTSABER FINDS ITS MARK: THE IRON ARMATURE THAT SUPPORTS OMMIN'S SOFTENED BONES!
WITHOUT HIS METAL EXOSKELETON, OMMIN COLLAPSES LIKE AN ARKANIAN JELLYFISH!
NAAAAD! NYYAAAAD! PROTECT MEEE!

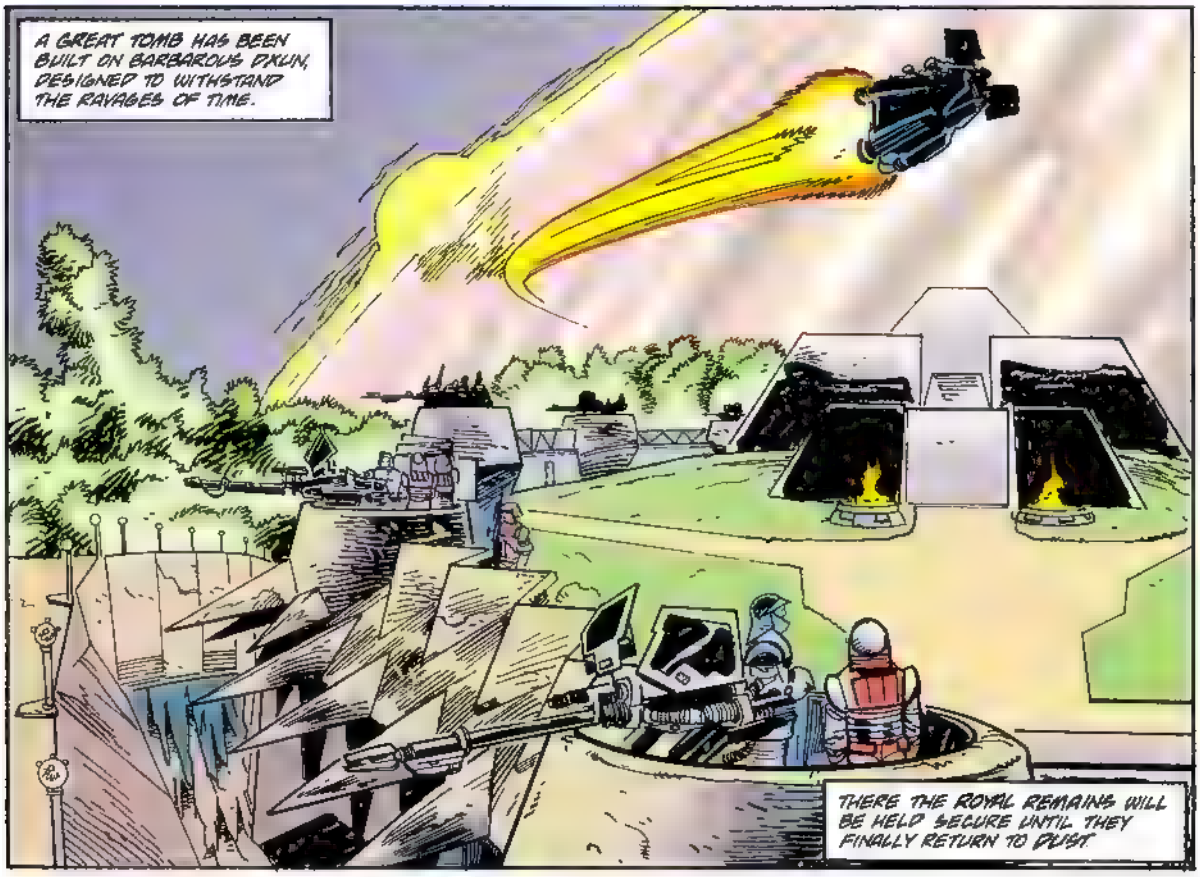

I'LL ASK AGAIN--
WHERE'S MASTER ARCA?
GONE TO THE DARK SIDE... GONE TO THE DARK SIDE--
--AS WILL YOU, MY FINE JEDI!
S KING OMMIN VENTS HIS MALIGNANT WRATH, SATAL AND ALEEMA RETREAT DEEP INTO THE SUB-TERRANEAN CHAMBERS--
--WHERE THEY COME UPON AN UNEXPECTED SIGHT!
SATAL AND ALEEMA... I AM NADD.
YOU MAY KEEP THE BOOK... AND THE TALISMAN.
BOTH RIGHTFULLY BELONG TO YOU.
AS DO THESE SWORDS OF THE SITH.
KING OMMIN WILL NO LONGER NEED THEM.
OMMIN WAS RIGHT... YOU ARE THE FUTURE OF MY WORK...
WOW LEAVE...
THIS PASSAGE WILL BRING YOU TO THE SURFACE!

THEN, IN A FLASH OF BLUE FIRE, NADD APPEARS AT THE SIDE OF THE FALLEN KING--
OMMIN--ARE YOU STILL WORKING YOUR RELENTLESS SPELLS? DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?
LET THESE YOUNG JEDI GO! THEY DON'T BELONG TO YOU! IT IS YOUR TIME TO DIE!
NEVER...NEVER... THEY ALL BELONG TO THE DARK SIDE!
I'M SORRY, OMMIN... THEY DON'T BELONG TO THE DARK SIDE BUT YOU DO!
--WELL MAYBE ONE OR TWO BELONG TO THE DARK SIDE...
GREETINGS, ARCA--HAS KING OMMIN'S DEATH FREED YOU?
NYAAAAAAA!
MASTER!
TODAY THE JEDI KNIGHTS HAVE TRIUMPHED OVER THE DARK SIDE.
GOOD WORK, ULIC!


NOW ALL THAT REMAINS IS TO DEAL WITH THIS ROGUE SPIRIT!
YOU DELUDE YOURSELF, OLD MAN.
THE JEDI HAVE NOT WON TODAY.. AS YOU WILL ONE DAY LEARN--
THE JEDI HAVE LOST!
ITH KING OMMIN DEAD AND HIS CLANDESTINE POWER DISPERSED, REPUBLIC FORCES QUICKLY RESTORE ORDER TO ONDERON.
THE CITY OF IZIZ IS PLACED UNDER MARTIAL LAW. OFF-WORLDERS ARE EVACUATED TO THEIR HOME PLANETS.
CONCEALED AMONGST THE DEPARTING TRAVELERS, SATAL KETO AND HIS COUSIN ALEEMA RETURN ACROSS THE GALAXY TO THE EMPRESS TETA SYSTEM...
..WITH PRECIOUS SITH TREASURES IN THEIR BAGGAGE!


THE WORK OF REMOVING THE DARK-SIDE INFLUENCES FROM ONDERON CONTINUES, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF MASTER ARCA AND HIS APPRENTICES.
THE SARCOPHAGI OF FREEDON NADD AND QUEEN AMANDA ARE ONCE AGAIN BROUGHT TO THE SPACEPORT... KING ONMIN IS WITH THEM.


THIS TIME THERE IS NO NADDIST ATTEMPT TO PREVENT THE EMBARKATION TO THE DXUN MOON.


A GREAT TOMB HAS BEEN BUILT ON BARBAROUS DXUN, DESIGNED TO WITHSTAND THE RAVAGES OF TIME.
THERE THE ROYAL REMAINS WILL BE HELD SECURE UNTIL THEY FINALLY RETURN TO DUST.

AS ORON KIRA'S MEN HOLD BACK THE UNTAMED CREATURES OF OXUN, THE ENTOMBMENT CEREMONY GOES FORWARD WITHOUT A HITCH.
MASTER ARCA, WHAT DID FREEDON NADD MEAN WHEN HE SAID THE JEDI HAVE LOST?
NADD SPOKE OF THE ANCIENT SITH FORETELLINGS... THAT THE DARK LORDS WILL COME AGAIN.
I HEARD SIMILAR STORIES... FROM THE JEDI HOLOCRON.
THESE PROPHECIES CHILL MY BLOOD.
THERE MAY BE SOMETHING TO THEM... BUT THE FUTURE DEPENDS ON US. WE JEDI MUST CLING TO THE LIGHT.
THE LIGHT IS OUR STRENGTH AND OUR ALLY. WITH THE LIGHT OF THE FORCE THE JEDI WILL STAND FOREVER...
REMEMBER, ULIC... WHERE THERE IS LIGHT... THERE CAN BE NO DARKNESS.
WILL THE SITH PROPHECIES COME TRUE? ONLY TIME WILL TELL... AND TALES OF THE JEDI YET TO BE TOLD!

Dark Lords of the Sith | Illustration by Hugh Fleming

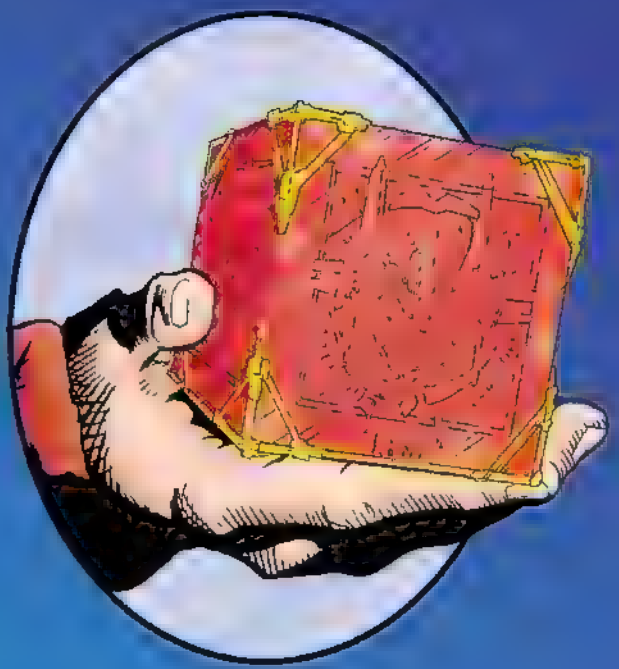
APPROXIMATELY 3,997 YEARS BEFORE THE BATTLE OF YAVIN . . .

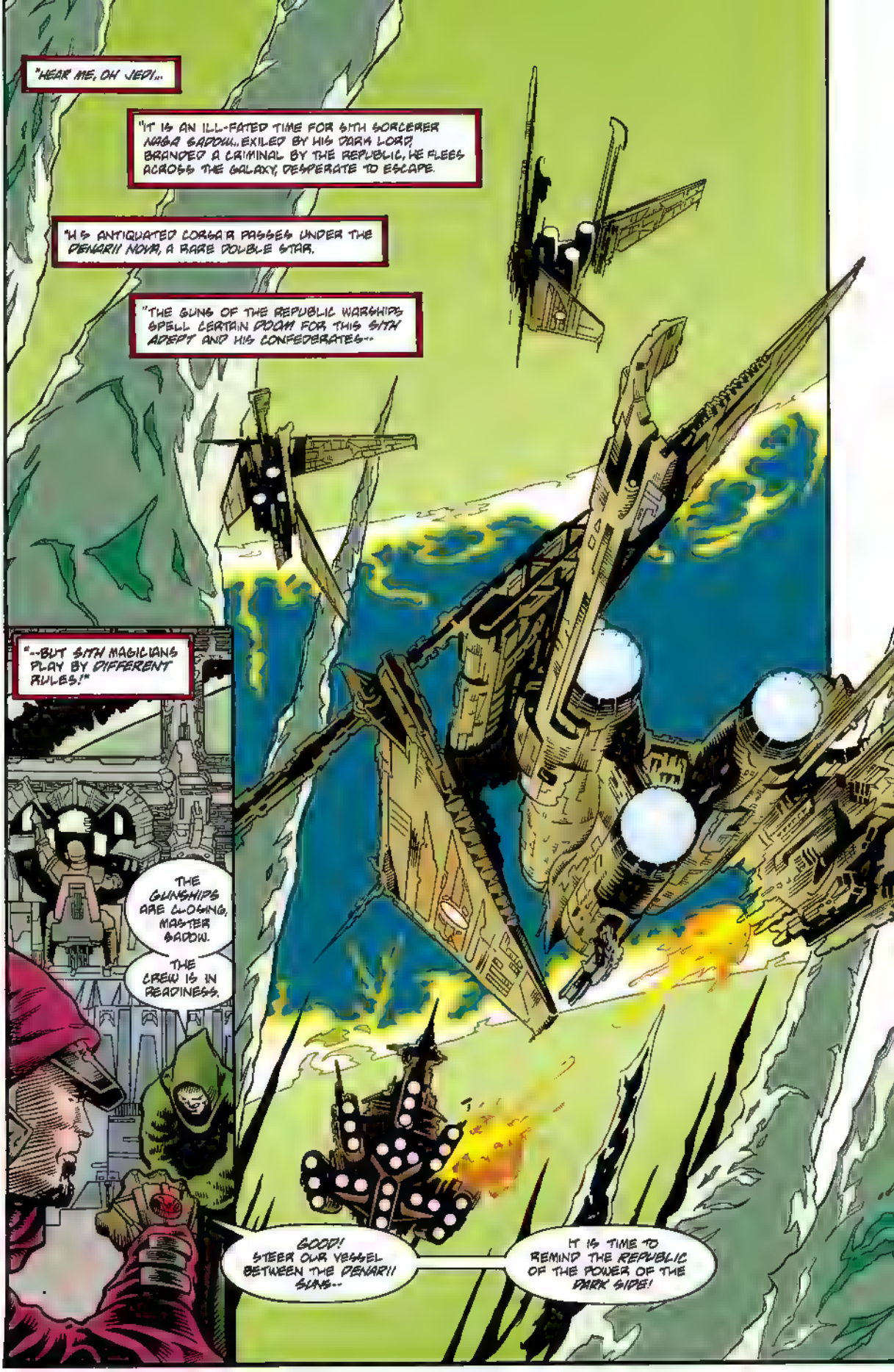
script by Tom Veitch and Kevin J. Anderson
pencils by Chris Gossett
inks by Mike Barreiro and Jordi Ensign
colors by Pamela Rambo
letters by Willie Schubert

"Time and again, throughout the eons, the power of the dark side of the Force has advanced with the fury of a storm, sweeping up star system after star system. Only in great conflagration were the forces of the dark side defeated..."

"The dark side has come before, and it will come again. Do **not** underestimate its power. That is why I have devoted my life to teaching Jedi Knights, to strengthen the light side against the tide of darkness that is sure to come."

Vodo-Siosk Baas, Jedi Master




"HEAR ME, OH JEDI...
"IT IS AN ILL-FATED TIME FOR SITH SORCERER NAGA SADOW... EXILED BY HIS DARK LORD, BRANDED A CRIMINAL BY THE REPUBLIC, HE FLEES ACROSS THE GALAXY, DESPERATE TO ESCAPE.
"HIS ANTIQUATED CORGAR PASSES UNDER THE DENARII NOVA, A RARE DOUBLE STAR.
"THE GUNS OF THE REPUBLIC WARSHIPS SPELL CERTAIN DOOM FOR THIS SITH ADEPT AND HIS CONFEDERATES--
"--BUT SITH MAGICIANS PLAY BY DIFFERENT RULES!"
THE GUNSHIPS ARE LOCKING, MASTER SADOW.
THE CREW IS IN READINESS.
GOOD! STEER OUR VESSEL BETWEEN THE DENARII SUNS--
IT IS TIME TO REMIND THE REPUBLIC OF THE POWER OF THE DARK SIDE!

"THE SMALLER DENARII STAR FEEDS ON GASES STOLEN FROM ITS LARGER BROTHER."

CAPTAIN! THEY'RE HEADING BETWEEN THE STARS!

CAN OUR SHIELDS SURVIVE THAT RIVER OF FIRE?

BETTER THAN THEIRS CAN! FULL AHEAD!

"PERIODICALLY, IN THE *NATURAL ORDER* OF THE UNIVERSE, GREAT FLARES OF BURNING GASES PASS FROM ONE STAR TO THE OTHER--

"HOWEVER, THE FLEEING SITH CARE *NOTHING* FOR THE NATURAL ORDER OF THE UNIVERSE--"

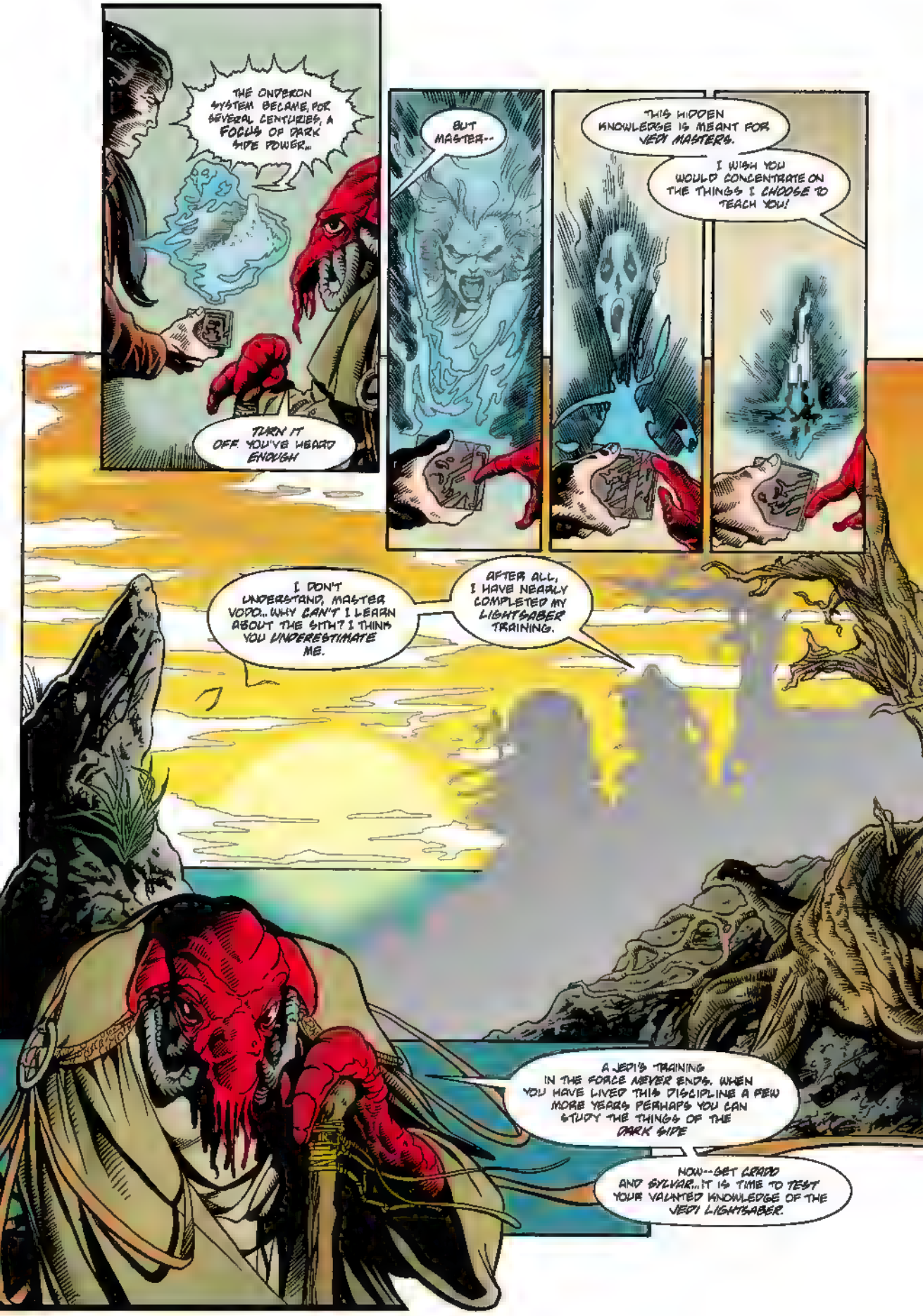
SIR! THE STARS ARE BECOMING UNSTABLE!

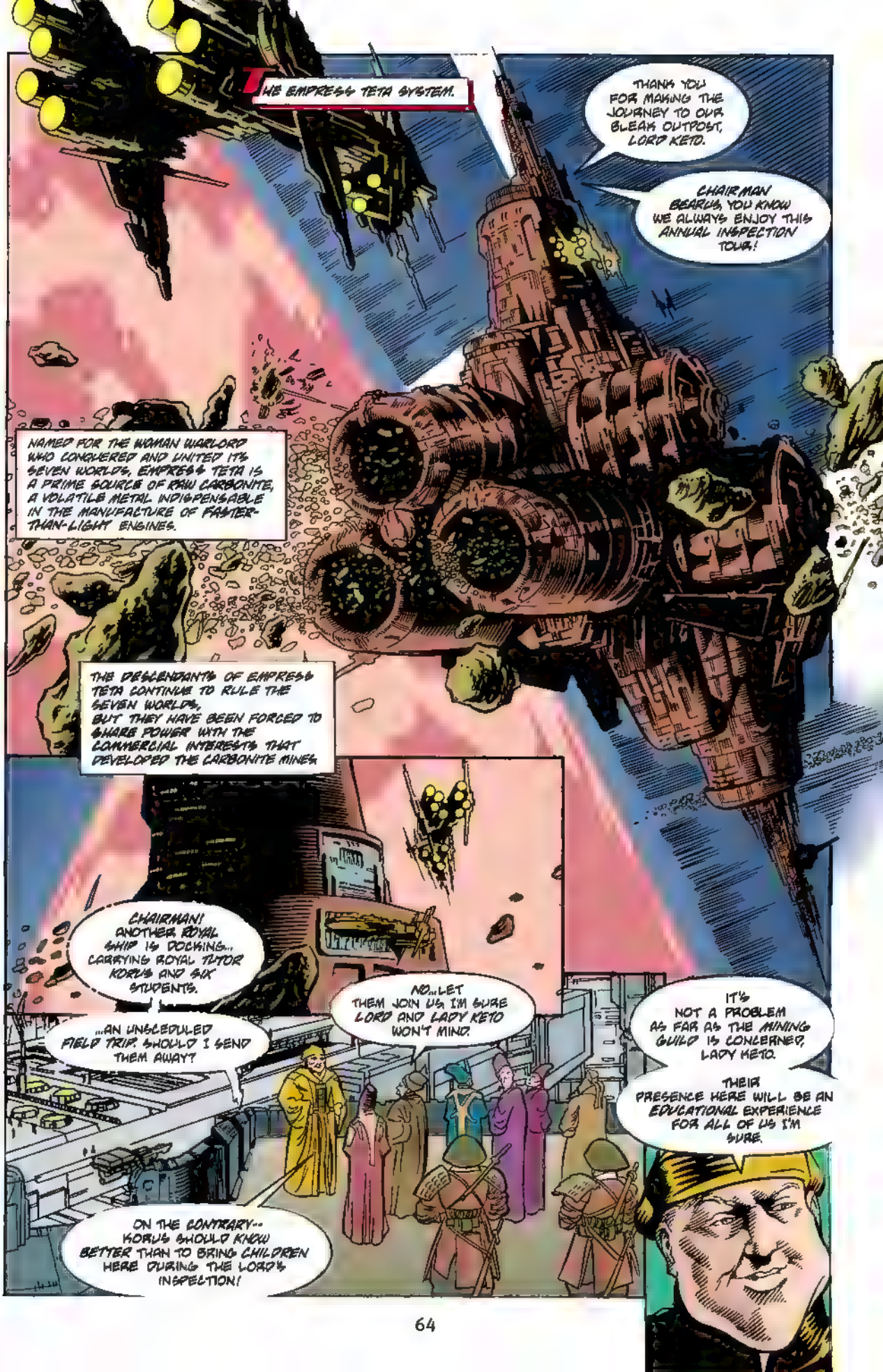
PULL UP! PULL UP!

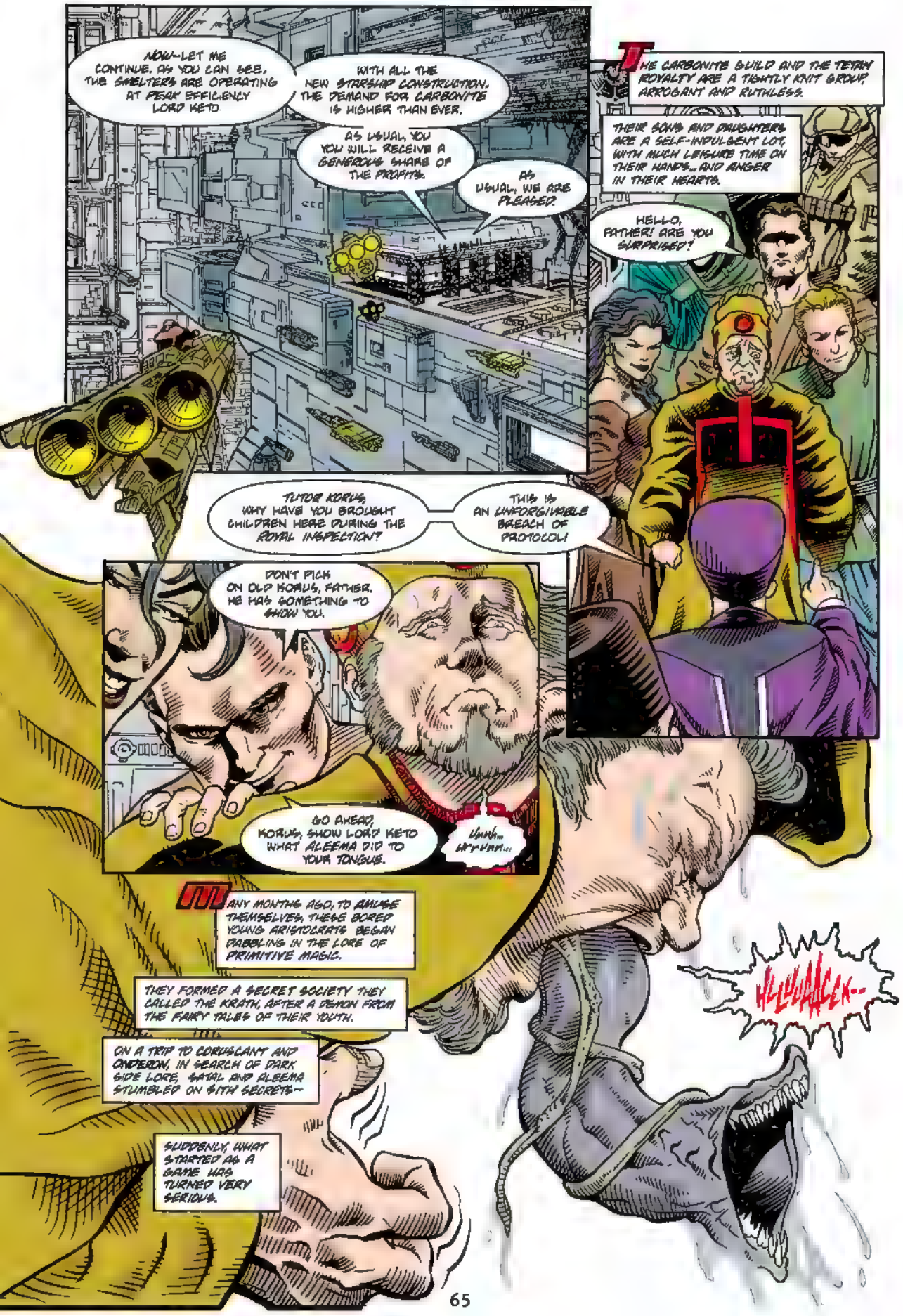
"INDEED, THE SITH SORCERERS BELIEVE THE ORDER OF THE UNIVERSE BELONGS TO THEM.

"NAGA SADOW CONSIDERS THE DEATH OF A STAR SYSTEM A SMALL PRICE FOR HIS OWN SURVIVAL.

"ACCORDING TO THEIR OWN HOLOCRON, THE ADEPT NAGA SADOW ESCAPED THE COSMIC HOLOCAUST HE CREATED...AND VANISHED WITH HIS FOLLOWERS.
"SADOW WAS A MEMBER OF AN ELITE PRIESTHOOD OF PURE SITH BLOOD, WHO WERE IN REBELLION AGAINST THEIR RULERS, THE FALLEN JEDI WHO WORE THE TITLE DARK LORDS OF SITH."
THE DARK LORDS WERE POWERFUL JEDI KNIGHTS WHO USED THE DARK SIDE OF THE FORCE TO MASTER THE SITH PEOPLE.
THERE COULD BE BUT ONE DARK LORD AT A TIME...THIS LINEAGE WAS PASSED FROM ONE GENERATION TO THE NEXT.
IT IS SAID THEIR MUMMIFIED REMAINS ARE PRESERVED FOREVER ON A HIDDEN WORLD, IN MONUMENTAL TEMPLES THEY CONSTRUCTED TO HONOR THEMSELVES.
BUT MASTER VODO... IF THERE WAS ONLY ONE DARK LORD AT A TIME, WEREN'T OTHER DARK JEDI ENVIOUS?
"VERY TRUE...SOME OF THE JEDI WHO BECAME STUDENTS OF THE DARK WAY COULDN'T WAIT TO BE CHOSEN--OR NOT CHOSEN--TO SUCCEED THE REIGNING DARK LORD...
"ONE SUCH WAS FREEDON NADD.
"NADD ROAMED THE UNCHARTED SYSTEMS, UNTIL HE FOUND A WORLD HE COULD DOMINATE USING THE POWERS OF THE DARK SIDE."
WHAT WORLD WAS THAT, MASTER VODO?
ONDERON, MY SON...AND WHY IS THE FATE OF A RENEGADE JEDI OF SUCH INTEREST TO MY GREATEST STUDENT?
MASTER VODO--I WAS...UH...ONLY CURIOUS TO SEE WHAT YOU'VE BEEN RECORDING IN YOUR HOLOCRON!
CURIOSITY CAN BE REWARDING, EXAR KUN...
...BUT SOME TEACHINGS OF THE HOLOCRON ARE DANGEROUS BEFORE YOU'RE READY.


THE ONDERON SYSTEM BECAME, FOR SEVERAL CENTURIES, A FOCUS OF DARK SIDE POWER...
TURN IT OFF. YOU'VE HEARD ENOUGH
BUT MASTER--
THIS HIDDEN KNOWLEDGE IS MEANT FOR JEDI MASTERS.
I WISH YOU WOULD CONCENTRATE ON THE THINGS I CHOOSE TO TEACH YOU!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND, MASTER VODO.. WHY CAN'T I LEARN ABOUT THE SITH? I THINK YOU UNDERESTIMATE ME.
AFTER ALL, I HAVE NEARLY COMPLETED MY LIGHTSABER TRAINING.
A JEDI'S TRAINING IN THE FORCE NEVER ENDS. WHEN YOU HAVE LIVED THIS DISCIPLINE A FEW MORE YEARS PERHAPS YOU CAN STUDY THE THINGS OF THE DARK SIDE
NOW--GET CRADD AND SYLVAR...IT IS TIME TO TEST YOUR VAUNTED KNOWLEDGE OF THE JEDI LIGHTSABER.


THE EMPRESS TETA SYSTEM.
THANK YOU FOR MAKING THE JOURNEY TO OUR BLEAK OUTPOST, LORD KETO.
CHAIRMAN BEARUS, YOU KNOW WE ALWAYS ENJOY THIS ANNUAL INSPECTION TOUR!
NAMED FOR THE WOMAN WARLORD WHO CONQUERED AND UNITED ITS SEVEN WORLDS, EMPRESS TETA IS A PRIME SOURCE OF RAW CARBONITE, A VOLATILE METAL INDISPENSABLE IN THE MANUFACTURE OF FASTER-THAN-LIGHT ENGINES.
THE DESCENDANTS OF EMPRESS TETA CONTINUE TO RULE THE SEVEN WORLDS, BUT THEY HAVE BEEN FORCED TO SHARE POWER WITH THE COMMERCIAL INTERESTS THAT DEVELOPED THE CARBONITE MINES.
CHAIRMAN! ANOTHER ROYAL SHIP IS DOCKING... CARRYING ROYAL TUTOR KORUS AND SIX STUDENTS.
...AN UNSCHEDULED FIELD TRIP. SHOULD I SEND THEM AWAY?
NO...LET THEM JOIN US. I'M SURE LORD AND LADY KETO WON'T MIND.
IT'S NOT A PROBLEM AS FAR AS THE MINING GUILD IS CONCERNED, LADY KETO.
THEIR PRESENCE HERE WILL BE AN EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE FOR ALL OF US I'M SURE.
ON THE CONTRARY... KORUS SHOULD KNOW BETTER THAN TO BRING CHILDREN HERE DURING THE LORD'S INSPECTION!



NOW—LET ME CONTINUE. AS YOU CAN SEE, THE SMELTERS ARE OPERATING AT PEAK EFFICIENCY LORD KETO.

WITH ALL THE NEW STARSHIP CONSTRUCTION, THE DEMAND FOR CARBONITE IS HIGHER THAN EVER.

AS USUAL, YOU YOU WILL RECEIVE A GENEROUS SHARE OF THE PROFITS.

AS USUAL, WE ARE PLEASED.

THE CARBONITE GUILD AND THE TETAN ROYALTY ARE A TIGHTLY KNIT GROUP, ARROGANT AND RUTHLESS.

THEIR SONS AND DAUGHTERS ARE A SELF-INDULGENT LOT, WITH MUCH LEISURE TIME ON THEIR HANDS... AND ANGER IN THEIR HEARTS.

HELLO, FATHER! ARE YOU SURPRISED?

TUTOR KORUS, WHY HAVE YOU BROUGHT CHILDREN HERE DURING THE ROYAL INSPECTION?

THIS IS AN UNFORGIVABLE BREACH OF PROTOCOL!

DON'T PICK ON OLD KORUS, FATHER. HE HAS SOMETHING TO SHOW YOU.

GO AHEAD, KORUS, SHOW LORD KETO WHAT ALEEMA DID TO YOUR TONGUE.

Unnh... urrunn...

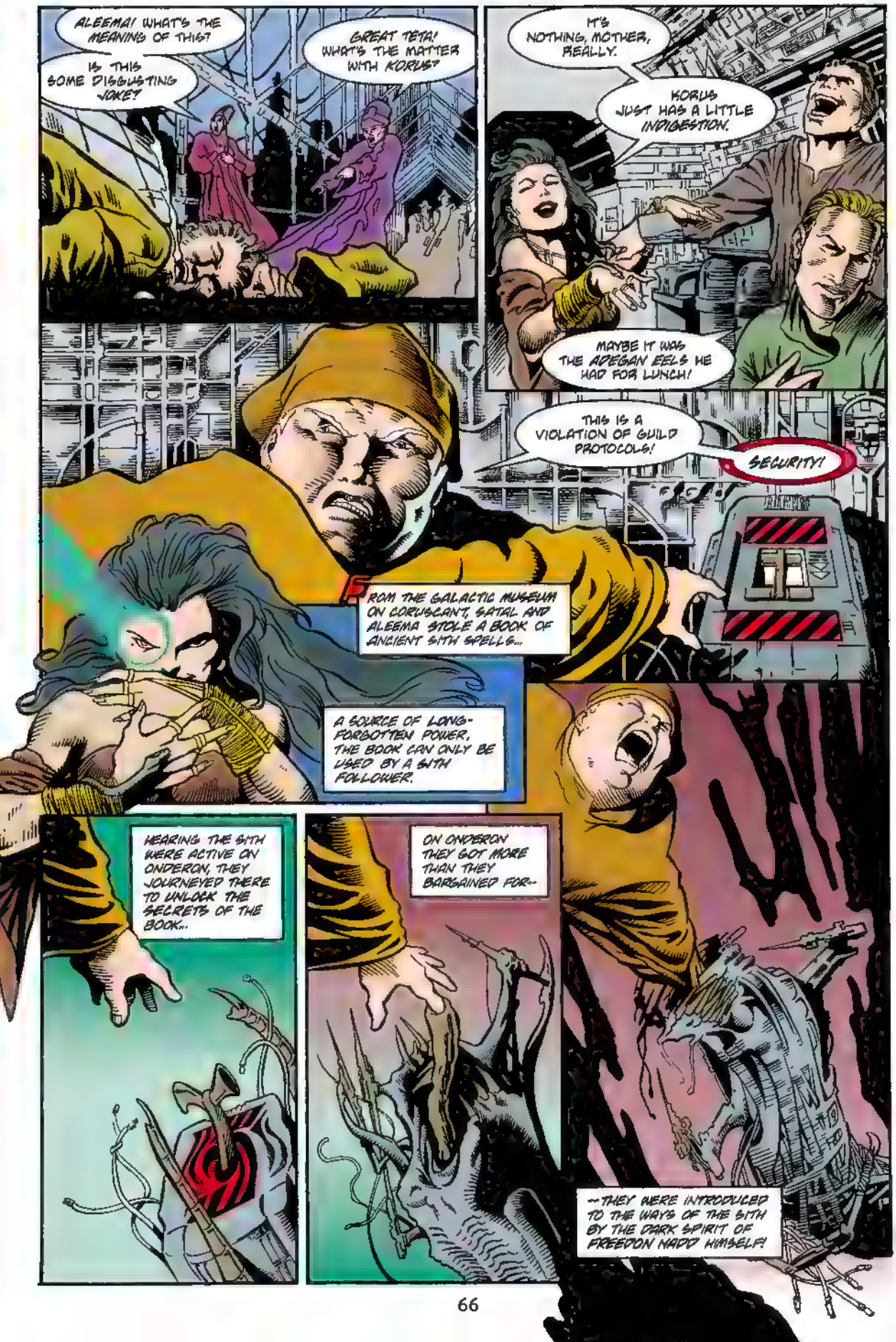
MANY MONTHS AGO, TO AMUSE THEMSELVES, THESE BORED YOUNG ARISTOCRATS BEGAN DABBLING IN THE LORE OF PRIMITIVE MAGIC.

THEY FORMED A SECRET SOCIETY THEY CALLED THE KRATH, AFTER A DEMON FROM THE FAIRY TALES OF THEIR YOUTH.

ON A TRIP TO CORUSCANT AND ONDERON, IN SEARCH OF DARK SIDE LORE, SATAL AND ALEEMA STUMBLED ON SITH SECRETS—

SUDDENLY, WHAT STARTED AS A GAME HAS TURNED VERY SERIOUS.

HLLUAACCK--

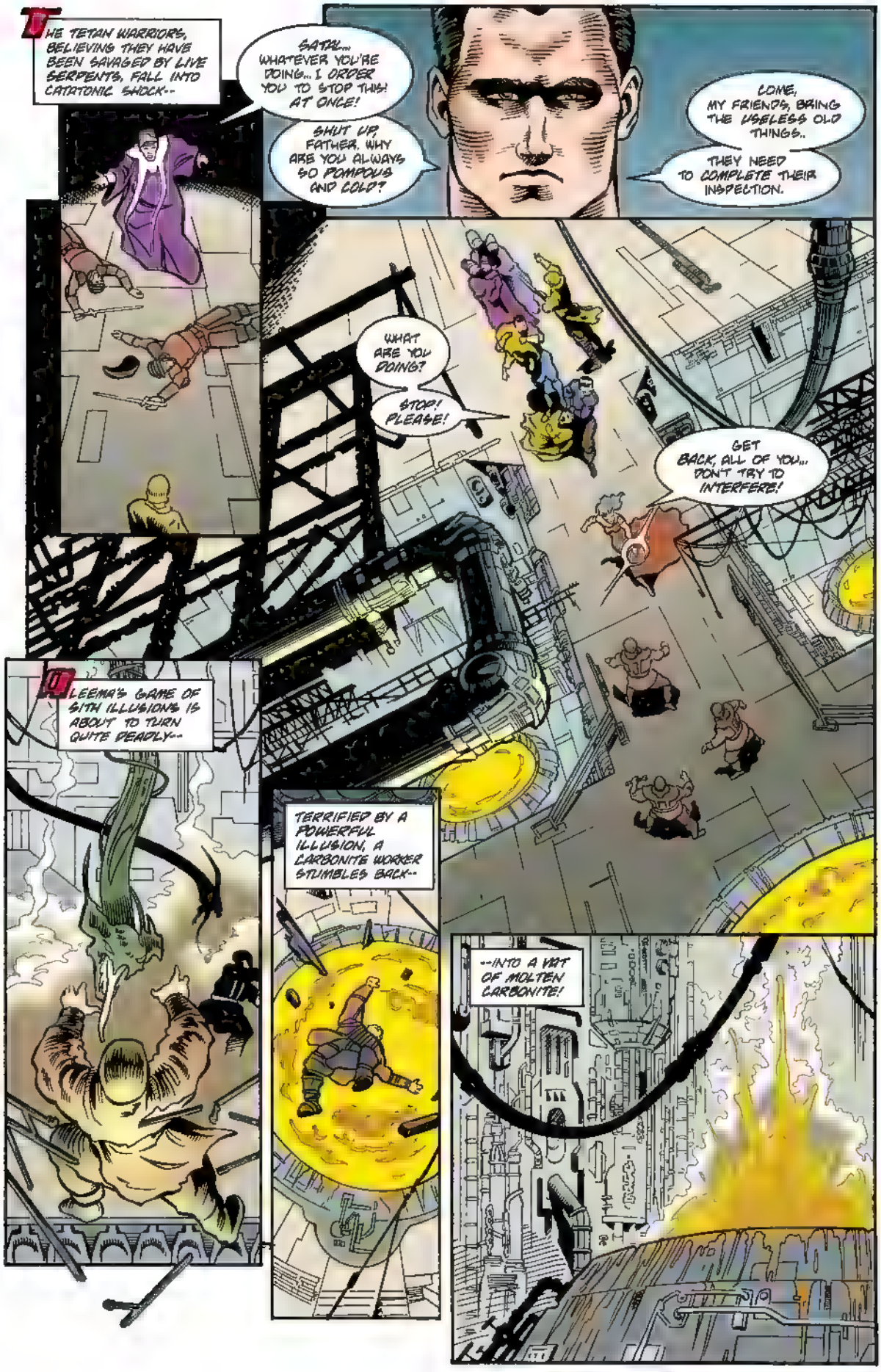

ALEEMA! WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?
IS THIS SOME DISGUSTING JOKE?
GREAT TETA! WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH KORUS?
IT'S NOTHING, MOTHER, REALLY.
KORUS JUST HAS A LITTLE INDIGESTION.
MAYBE IT WAS THE ADEGAN EELS HE HAD FOR LUNCH!
THIS IS A VIOLATION OF GUILD PROTOCOLS!
SECURITY!
ROM THE GALACTIC MUSEUM ON CORUSCANT, SATAL AND ALEEMA STOLE A BOOK OF ANCIENT SITH SPELLS...
A SOURCE OF LONG-FORGOTTEN POWER, THE BOOK CAN ONLY BE USED BY A SITH FOLLOWER.
HEARING THE SITH WERE ACTIVE ON ONDERON, THEY JOURNEYED THERE TO UNLOCK THE SECRETS OF THE BOOK..
ON ONDERON THEY GOT MORE THAN THEY BARGAINED FOR..
--THEY WERE INTRODUCED TO THE WAYS OF THE SITH BY THE DARK SPIRIT OF FREEDON NADD HIMSELF!

PROTECTORS! DRAW YOUR WEAPONS!
TAKE THEM PRISONER!

LORD KETO! YOU CAN'T ARREST OUR OWN CHILDREN!
I'M SORRY, MAGDA...I HAVE NO CHOICE!
THE ROYAL PROTECTORS ARE IN FOR A RUDE SURPRISE.

ALEEMA HAS A RAPIDLY EXPANDING TALENT FOR SITH ILLUSIONS!
OH...SILLY SWORDS...
WHY, LOOK--THEY'RE NOT SWORDS AT ALL!

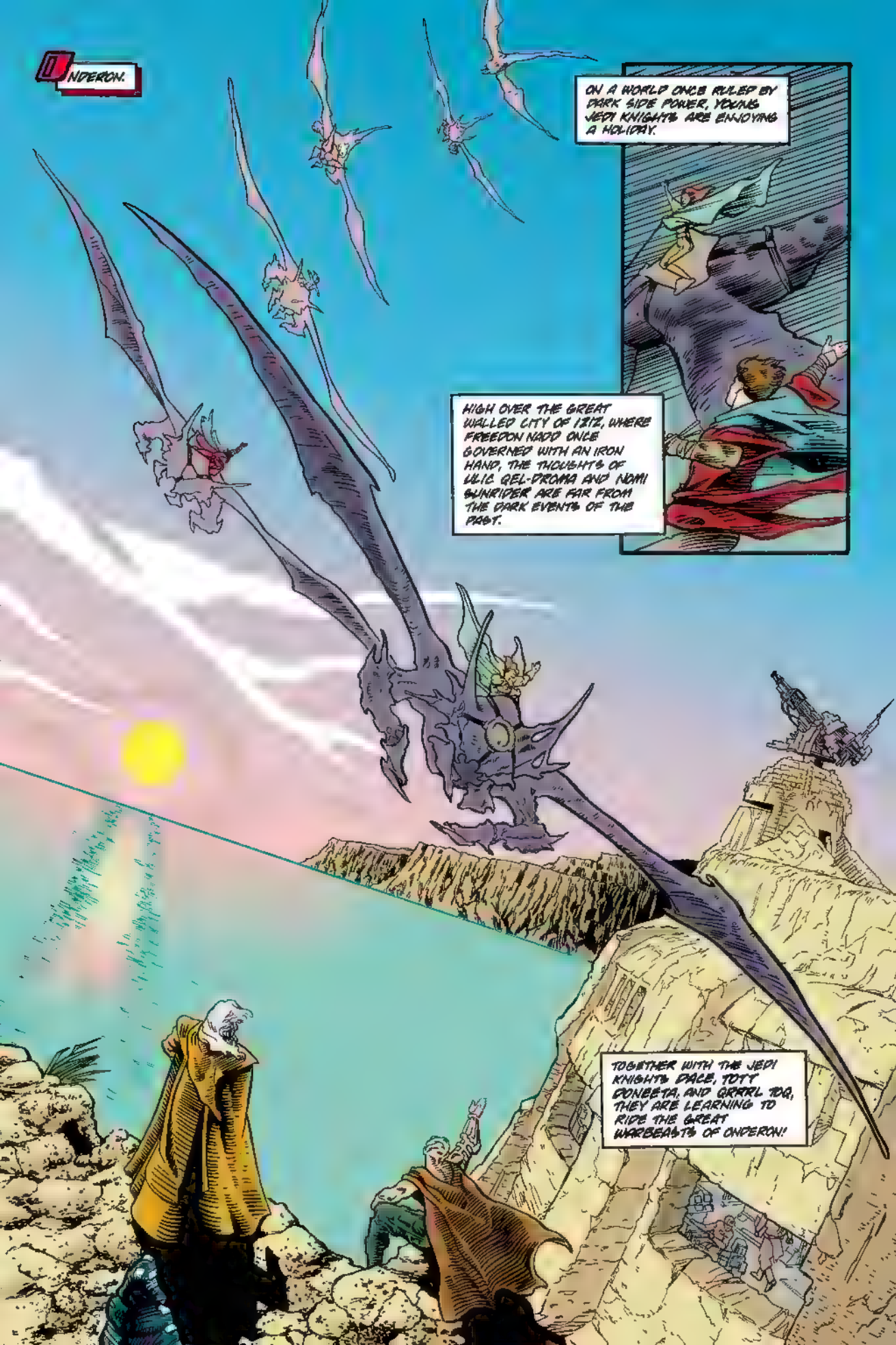
THAT'S IT-- IT'S ALL SOME KIND OF MAGIC TRICK!
DON'T PANIC, MEN, THE...HA...SNAKES AREN'T REAL!
YAAAAA! IT'S REAL!
IT'S KILLING ME!


THE TETAN WARRIORS, BELIEVING THEY HAVE BEEN SAVAGED BY LIVE SERPENTS, FALL INTO CATATONIC SHOCK--
SATAL... WHATEVER YOU'RE DOING... I ORDER YOU TO STOP THIS! AT ONCE!
SHUT UP, FATHER. WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS SO POMPOUS AND COLD?
COME, MY FRIENDS, BRING THE USELESS OLD THINGS..
THEY NEED TO COMPLETE THEIR INSPECTION.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
STOP! PLEASE!
GET BACK, ALL OF YOU... DON'T TRY TO INTERFERE!
LEEMA'S GAME OF SITH ILLUSIONS IS ABOUT TO TURN QUITE DEADLY--
TERRIFIED BY A POWERFUL ILLUSION, A CARBONITE WORKER STUMBLES BACK--
--INTO A VAT OF MOLTEN CARBONITE!

LORD KETO, HEREDITARY RULER OF TETA, IS NEXT.. BUT HE DOES NOT FALL--
--HE IS CAREFULLY DIPPED.
THE POLITICAL COUP OF THE KRATH IS NO LARK-- IT WAS PLANNED WITH VILLAINOUS PRECISION WORTHY OF DARK SIDE MASTERMINDS.
I THINK YOU'VE DISCOVERED A NEW USE FOR CARBONITE, SATAL!
YES, I HAVE.. FATHER, YOU'VE HAD YOUR DAY.
NOW WE WILL HAVE OURS!
OUR.. UH.. WILLING COHORT GENERAL VULPE INFORMS ME THAT THE LAST OF THE COMPANY SMELTERS HAS SURRENDERED TO OUR RULE.
DID MINISTER HALKANS AGREE TO OUR DEMANDS?
YES, HE AGREED TO JOIN US FOR DINNER!
THE INTRIGUE HAS BEEN BREWING EVER SINCE SATAL AND ALEEMA RETURNED FROM ONDERON.
WELL BEFORE THEIR "FIELD TRIP" TO THE ORBITING SMELTERS, THE YOUNG CONSPIRATORS HAD THE TETAN MILITARY IN THEIR POCKET.

WE HAD TO OBLITERATE THREE MORE CITIES ON KIRREK.
THEY CONTINUED TO INSIST ON LOYALTY TO MY FATHER, EVEN WHEN HE'S HANGING ON MY WALL!
AND I LOCATED THE SECRET MEETING PLACE OF THE INSURRECTIONISTS HERE IN CINNABAR.
THEY WERE...UH... DEPRIVED OF OXYGEN AS THEY WERE MAKING PLANS TO STORM THE PALACE.
WHAT WILL WE DO ABOUT THEIR FAMILIES?
EVERYONE WHO DOES NOT ACCEPT OUR AUTHORITY SHOULD BE PUBLICLY HUMILIATED.
WE CAN FEED THEM TO YOUR FATHER'S TORTURE DROIDS...
SOMETIMES THE OLD WAYS ARE THE BEST.
AH... HERE'S GOOD MASTER KORUS WITH MORE WINE!
ABOUT TIME! WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN YOU OLD FUNGUS?
DO YOU WANT THE WORM TREATMENT AGAIN?
Mmmf.
EVER SINCE SATAL AND ALEEMA WERE CHILDREN, TUTOR KORUS HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH THEIR EDUCATION... NOW THEY ARE THE MASTERS...

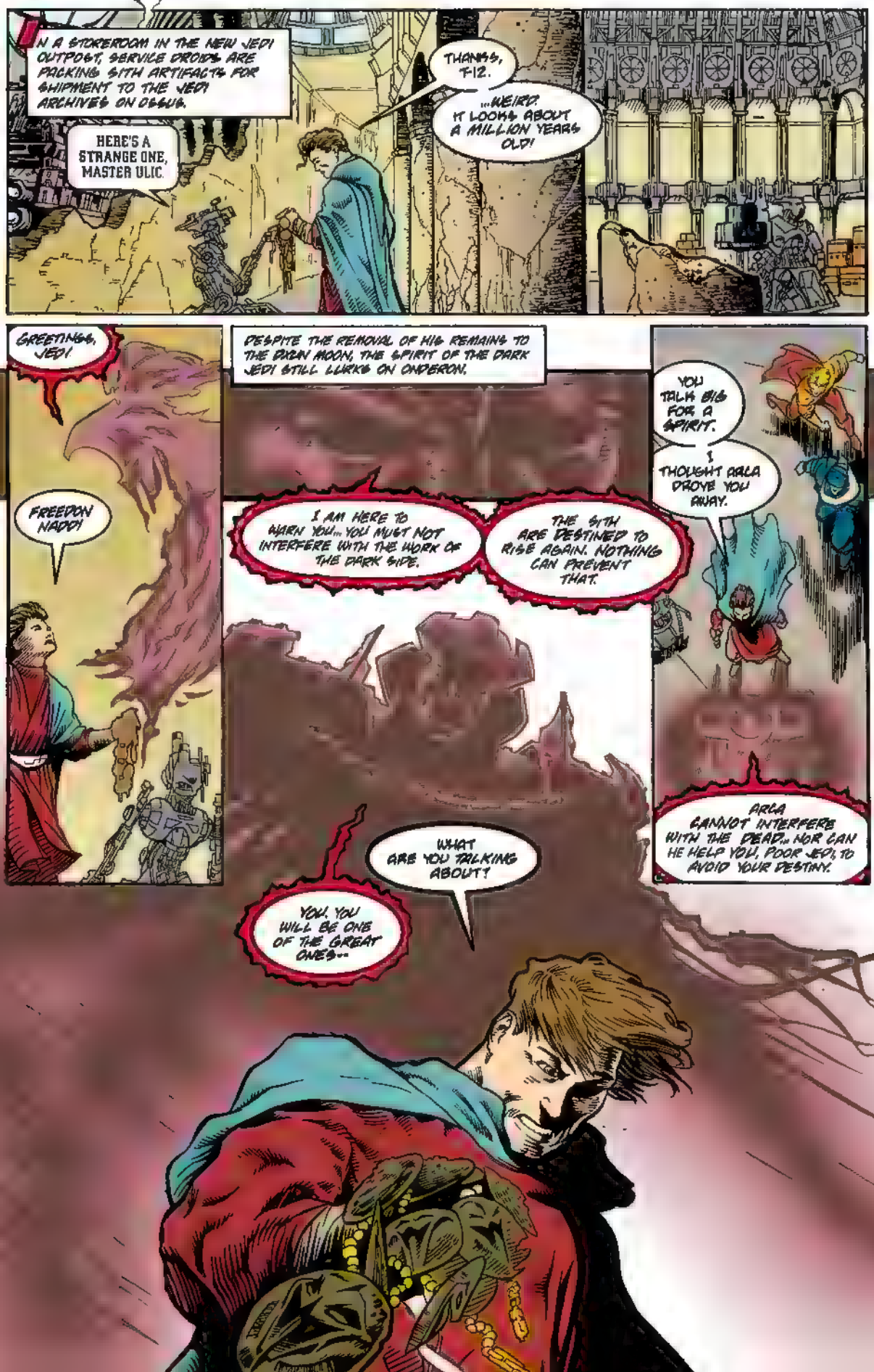
AT SOME POINT IN THEIR EXPERIMENTS WITH SITH SPELLS, THE YOUNG TETAN CROSSED AN INVISIBLE THRESHOLD...
KRSSSSSH!
IDIOT!
THEY TAPPED INTO A STRATA OF DARK MAGIC THAT GREW MORE POWERFUL AND CORRUPTING AS IT WAS USED.
IN FACT, IT HAS ALREADY BEGUN TO SHATTER THEIR MINDS, TRANSFORMING THEM INTO ITS WILLING SERVANTS, IMBUING THEM WITH ENERGIES THAT OFFER MORE THAN ILLUSION!
AAARRHHAAGG!
DID YOU SEE THAT?
EXCELLENT. LET ME TRY IT NEXT TIME.
THIS IS THE AGE WHEN TIRED OLD FATHERS AND TEACHERS MUST STEP ASIDE FOR THE POWERFUL NEW BLOOD--
SEND UP ANOTHER SERVANT WITH MORE WINE!


ONDERON.
ON A WORLD ONCE RULED BY DARK SIDE POWER, YOUNG JEDI KNIGHTS ARE ENJOYING A HOLIDAY.
HIGH OVER THE GREAT WALLED CITY OF IZIZ, WHERE FREEDON NADD ONCE GOVERNED WITH AN IRON HAND, THE THOUGHTS OF ULIC QEL-DROMA AND NOMI SUNRIDER ARE FAR FROM THE DARK EVENTS OF THE PAST.
TOGETHER WITH THE JEDI KNIGHTS DACE, TOTT DONEETA, AND GRRRL TOG, THEY ARE LEARNING TO RIDE THE GREAT WARBEASTS OF ONDERON!

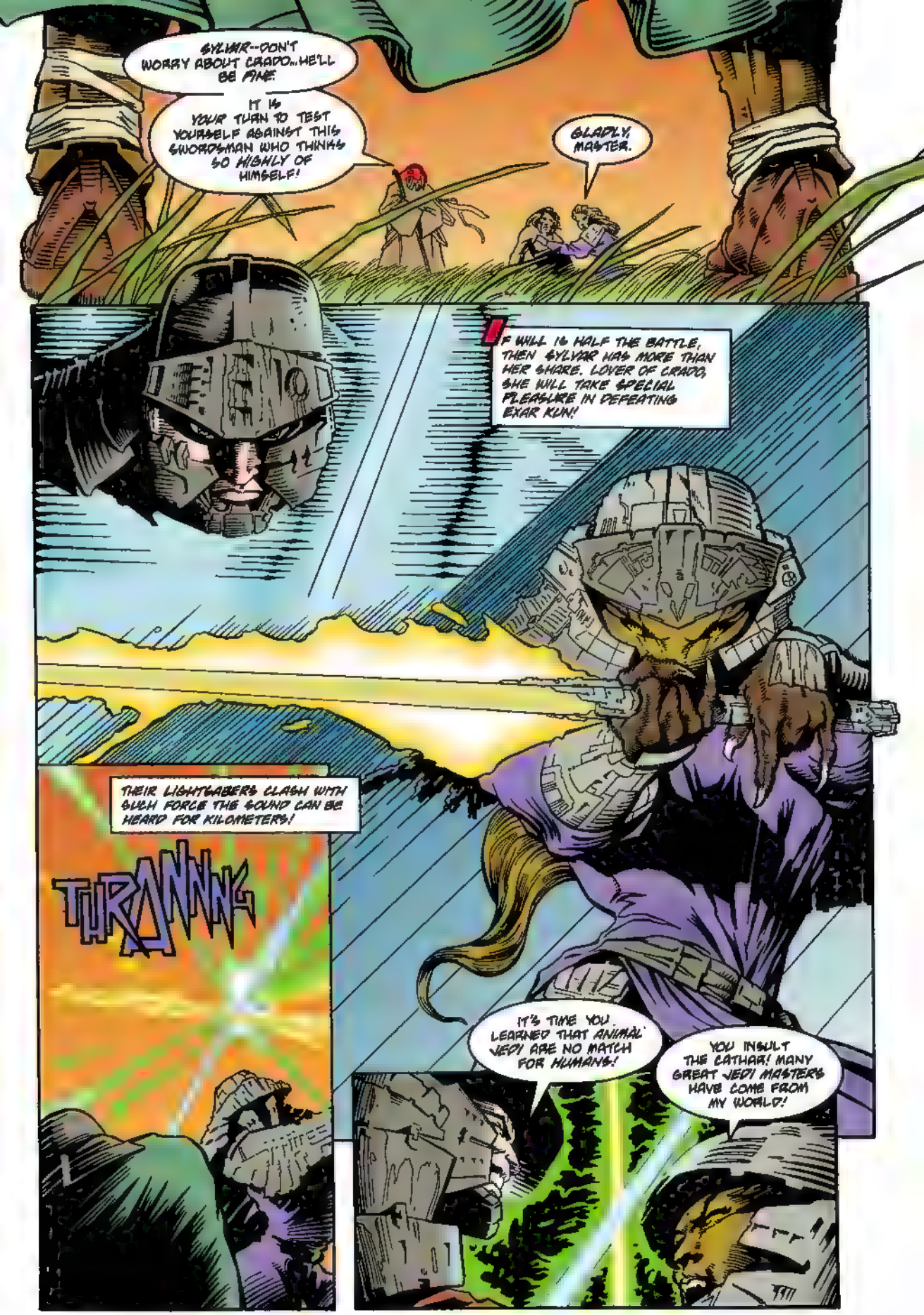
ULIC AND NOMI SUNRIDER SEEM TO BE ENJOYING EACH OTHER.
IT'S A SHAME YOU HAVE TO SEND THEM OFF TO WAR SO SOON, MASTER ARCA.
YES. UNFORTUNATELY, ALL OF YOU MAY SOON RETURN TO BATTLE...
"A POLITICAL COUP IN THE EMPRESS TETA SYSTEM SEEMS TO BE CONNECTED TO THE FREEDON NADD UPRISING...
"THE TETA SYSTEM HAS NOW BECOME OUR RESPONSIBILITY."
SAME TIME TOMORROW, ULIC!
SOON YOU'LL BE READY TO FACE MY BEST WARRIORS!
I'VE GOT SOME BAD NEWS, MY FRIENDS.
I THOUGHT THE SITH TEACHINGS THAT WERE ACTIVE HERE HAD BEEN CONTAINED. APPARENTLY, I WAS WRONG.

HOW'S THAT POSSIBLE, MASTER ARCA?
I KNOW THE TETAN SYSTEM--IT'S ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE GALAXY!
TO LIBERATE ONDERON, JEDI MASTER ARCA ASSEMBLED AN EXCEPTIONAL BAND OF YOUNG JEDI KNIGHTS--
DACE DIATH OF TATOOINE. HIS FATHER WAS JEDI MASTER SIDRONA DIATH, KILLED IN THE BATTLE OF BASILISK.
WE HAVE LEARNED THAT TWO YOUNG TETANS WERE ON ONDERON DURING THE HEIGHT OF THE UPRISING.
THEY ARE SATAL KETO AND HIS COUSIN ALEEMA, HEIRS TO THE THRONE
TOTT DONEETA, TWI'LEK JEDI, APPRENTICE OF MASTER ARCA. TOTT'S FAMILY WAS CAPTIVE ABOARD A SLAVE SHIP LIBERATED BY ARCA IN HIS YOUTH.
APPARENTLY THEY MADE CONTACT WITH KING OMMIN--
I DON'T BELIEVE THAT TWO YOUNGSTERS CAN REACH THE LEVEL OF EVIL WE SAW IN OLD KING OMMIN--OR IN FREEDON NADD!
INITIATED THEM TO SECRET SITH MAGIC.
SHOANEB CULU OF THE EYELESS MIRALUKA. HER PEOPLE, MANY OF WHOM BECOME JEDI, SEE ONLY IN THE FORCE.
OSS WILLUM, A VULTAN, STUDENT OF MASTER THON OF AMBRIA. IN HIS YOUTH OSS APPRENTICED TO ANCIENT NETI MASTER GARNOO WHO PASSED ON BEFORE OSS COMPLETED HIS TRAINING.
I'LL BET THEY DON'T EVEN UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY'VE UNLEASHED...
AND THAT CAN MAKE THEM ALL THE MORE DANGEROUS.
CAY GEL-DROMA, BROTHER OF ULIC. THE TWO BROTHERS WERE BORN ON ALDERAAN TO A GREAT WARRIOR FAMILY. CAY LOST HIS ARM TO QUEEN AMANDA'S DARK SIDE PALADINS.

COMBINED JEDI AND REPUBLIC FORCES WILL ATTEMPT TO SAVE THE TETAN WORLDS THAT ARE STILL RESISTING THE COUP.
DACE, QRRRL TOQ, OSS WILUM, AND SHOANEB--
I WANT YOU TO GO TO THE JEDI STRONGHOLD ON OSSUS. INSTRUCT THE LEADERS ON THE JEDI AND REPUBLIC LEADERS ON WHAT YOU SAW HERE ON ONDERON.
NOMI SUNRIDER WILL STAY WITH ME AWHILE TO RECEIVE A LESSON IN JEDI BATTLE MEDITATION.
THEN SHE AND ULIC WILL FLY DIRECTLY TO THE EMPRESS TETA SYSTEM, TO LEAD THE JEDI EFFORT.
QRRRL TOQ. NAZZAR PRINCE, DESIGNER AND BUILDER OF JEDI ARMOR. A FEARLESS WARRIOR.
IT'S BEEN AN HONOR TO SERVE YOU, MASTER ARCA.
ULIC QEL-DROMA AND NOMI SUNRIDER... HEROES OF THE BATTLE FOR ONDERON.
I'LL READY THE [illegible] WHILE YOU INSTRUCT NOMI, MASTER.
1
SO A TIME OF RELAXATION DRAWS TO A CLOSE. MASTER ARCA SPIRITS NOMI AWAY.
...AND DACE, OSS WILUM, SHOANEB CULU, AND QRRRL TOQ DEPART FOR THE JEDI PLANET OSSUS--
I'LL MISS 'EM... BRAVE WARRIORS AND GOOD FRIENDS.
YOU KNOW, ULIC, I WAS THINKING...
IF FREEDON NADD IS REALLY AT THE ROOT OF THIS TETAN THING, WE OUGHT TO CHECK OUT ALL THE SITH GEAR THAT KING CHMIN COLLECTED.
GOOD IDEA, CAY. LET'S GO.

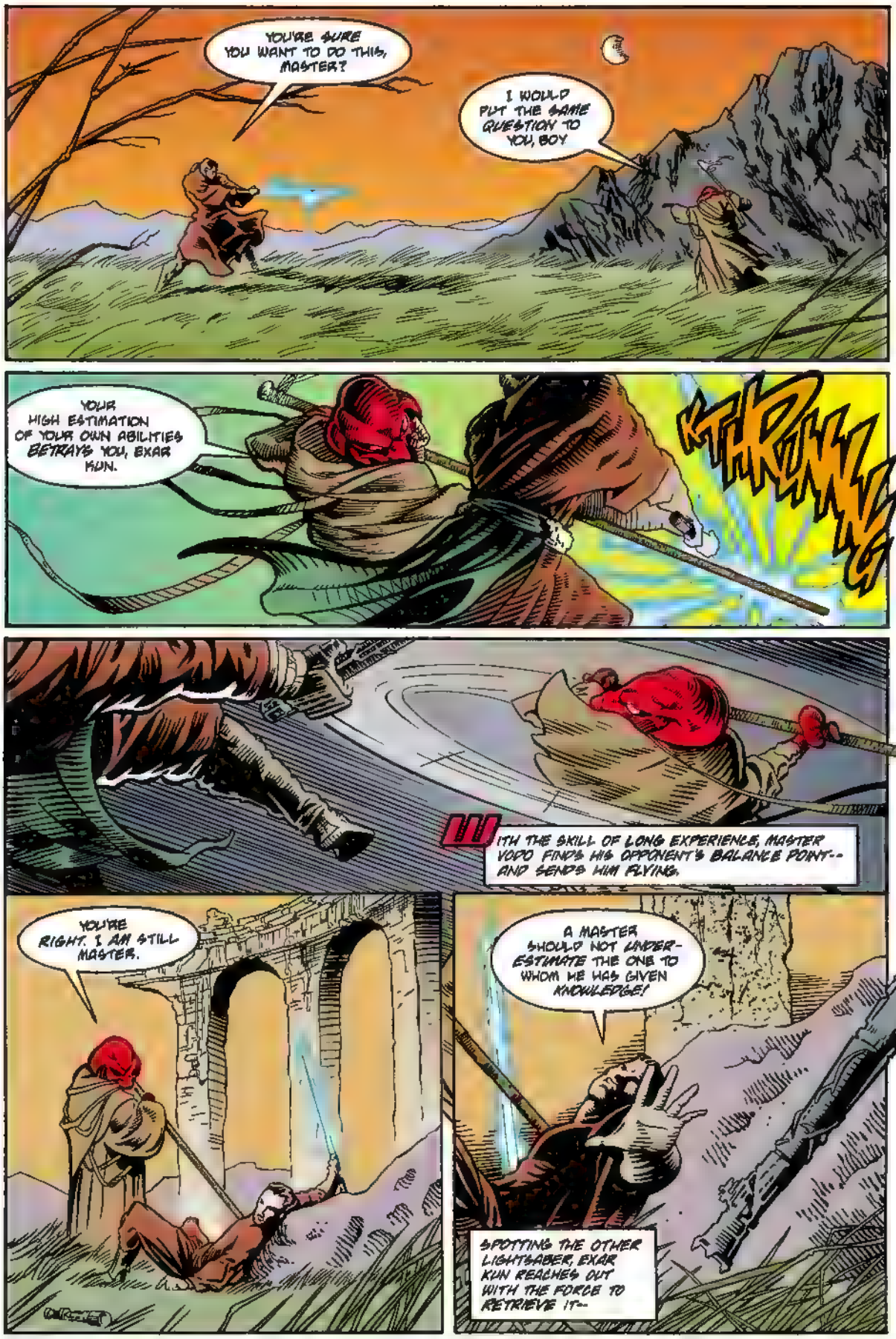

IN A STOREROOM IN THE NEW JEDI OUTPOST, SERVICE DROIDS ARE PACKING SITH ARTIFACTS FOR SHIPMENT TO THE JEDI ARCHIVES ON OSSUS.
HERE'S A STRANGE ONE, MASTER ULIC.
THANKS, T-12.
...WEIRD. IT LOOKS ABOUT A MILLION YEARS OLD!
GREETINGS, JEDI.
FREEDON NADD!
DESPITE THE REMOVAL OF HIS REMAINS TO THE DXUN MOON, THE SPIRIT OF THE DARK JEDI STILL LURKS ON ONDERON.
I AM HERE TO WARN YOU... YOU MUST NOT INTERFERE WITH THE WORK OF THE DARK SIDE.
THE SITH ARE DESTINED TO RISE AGAIN. NOTHING CAN PREVENT THAT.
YOU TALK BIG FOR A SPIRIT.
I THOUGHT ARCA DROVE YOU AWAY.
ARCA CANNOT INTERFERE WITH THE DEAD... NOR CAN HE HELP YOU, POOR JEDI, TO AVOID YOUR DESTINY.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU. YOU WILL BE ONE OF THE GREAT ONES--

"AND THERE IS ANOTHER EVEN GREATER THAN YOU."
0 ANTOOINE. MASTER VOOO'S WORLD.
AMIDST PEACEFUL RUINS THE APPRENTICES OF VOOO-SIOSK BAAS ARE TESTED IN THE ART OF THE LIGHTSABER!
YOU ARE THE BEST OF US, EKAR KUN.
I CAN'T BEAT YOU.
SHRUNNNG
FOOLISH CRADO--
SHRAAAM
--SPEAK THOSE WORDS ARE YOU HAVE ALREADY LOST!
FRANKLY, IT IS NO HONOR TO DEFEAT YOU, CRADO!
WILL IS HALF THE WINNING!
AND I STILL SAY IT IS NO DISHONOR TO LOSE TO YOU.
BUT CRADO KNOWS HIS OWN WORTH--HE IS NO MATCH FOR THE FIGHTING SKILLS OF EKAR KUN!


SYLVAR--DON'T WORRY ABOUT CRADO...HE'LL BE FINE.
IT IS YOUR TURN TO TEST YOURSELF AGAINST THIS SWORDSMAN WHO THINKS SO HIGHLY OF HIMSELF!
GLADLY, MASTER.
IF WILL IS HALF THE BATTLE, THEN SYLVAR HAS MORE THAN HER SHARE. LOVER OF CRADO, SHE WILL TAKE SPECIAL PLEASURE IN DEFEATING EXAR KUN!
THEIR LIGHTSABERS CLASH WITH SUCH FORCE THE SOUND CAN BE HEARD FOR KILOMETERS!
THRUMMM
IT'S TIME YOU LEARNED THAT ANIMAL JEDI ARE NO MATCH FOR HUMANS!
YOU INSULT THE LATHAR! MANY GREAT JEDI MASTERS HAVE COME FROM MY WORLD!

SYLVAR FAILS MASTER VODO'S TEST...WHEN SHE GIVES VENT TO INSTINCTIVE RAGE!
YAAAAA!
BUT EXAR KUN FEELS A RAGE OF HIS OWN--
HE WILL CARRY THE MARK OF SYLVAR'S ANGER FOREVER!
HOW DARE YOU CLAW ME!
Unnh--
GET UP! TAKE YOUR WEAPON. WE WILL DUEL AS JEDI.
YOU HAVE FOOLED MASTER VODO, BUT YOU DON'T FOOL ME. YOU ARE NO JEDI!

I'LL SHOW YOU!!
EXAR KUN!
CEASE! ANGER IS NOT THE WAY!
DO YOU THINK ANGER WILL MAKE YOU A GREAT WARRIOR?
ITH THE FORCE, VOPO CAN MAKE HIS SIMPLE STAFF MORE POWERFUL THAN EXAR KUN'S LIGHTSABER!
ARE YOU A GREATER WARRIOR THAN YOUR TEACHER BECAUSE OF 'IT'?
YOU ARE THE MASTER.
BUT ONLY I KNOW WHAT I CAN DO.
KUN! CATCH!
PROVE YOUR ARROGANCE... IF YOU CAN!
WITH A SILENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT, EXAR KUN ACCEPTS CRADO'S LIGHTSABER... AND ASSUMES A BATTLE-STANCE--


YOU'RE SURE YOU WANT TO DO THIS, MASTER?
I WOULD PUT THE SAME QUESTION TO YOU, BOY
YOUR HIGH ESTIMATION OF YOUR OWN ABILITIES BETRAYS YOU, EXAR KUN.
KTHRUNG
WITH THE SKILL OF LONG EXPERIENCE, MASTER VODO FINDS HIS OPPONENT'S BALANCE POINT-- AND SENDS HIM FLYING.
YOU'RE RIGHT. I AM STILL MASTER.
A MASTER SHOULD NOT UNDER-ESTIMATE THE ONE TO WHOM HE HAS GIVEN KNOWLEDGE!
SPOTTING THE OTHER LIGHTSABER, EXAR KUN REACHES OUT WITH THE FORCE TO RETRIEVE IT--

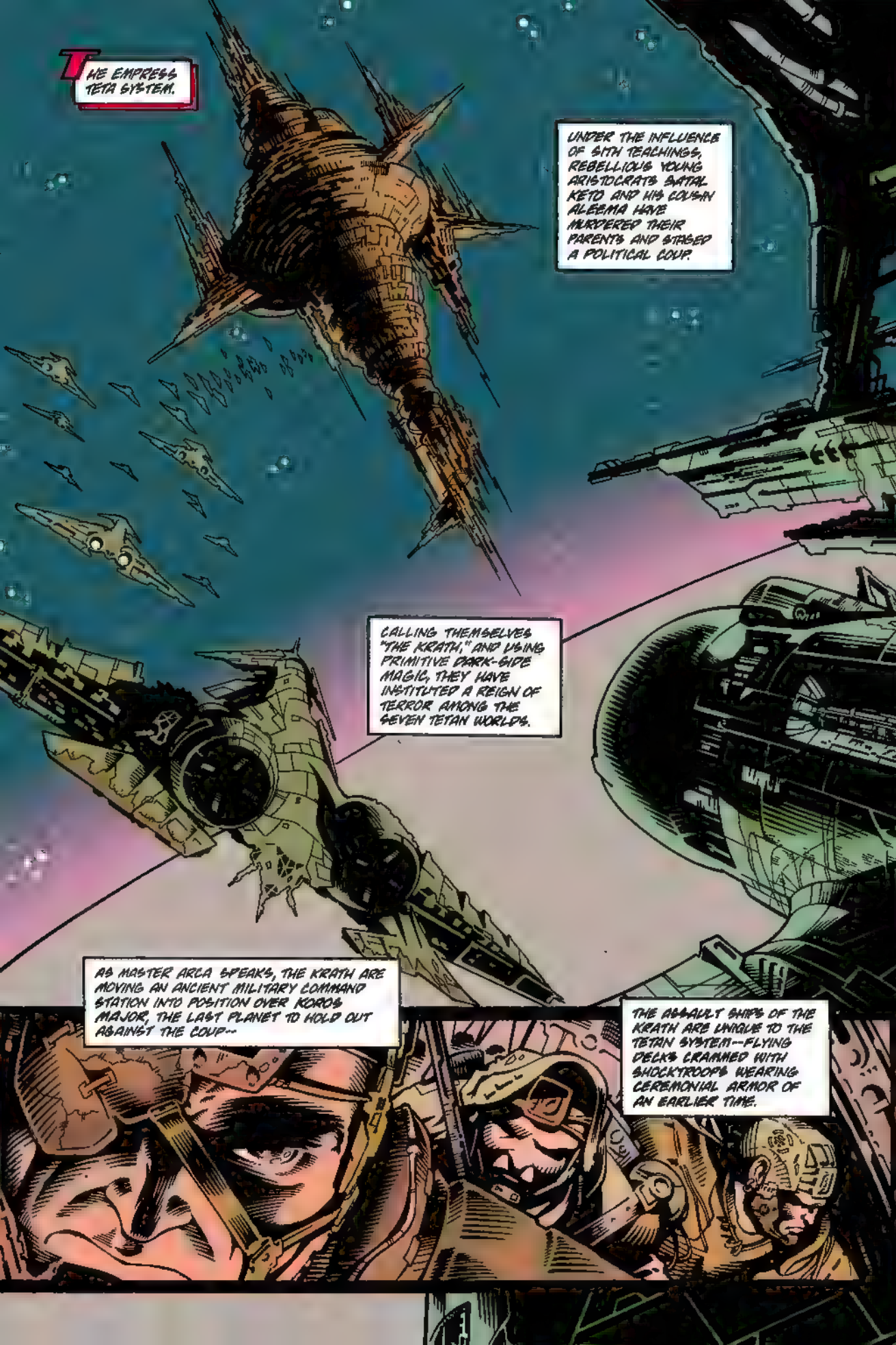
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, MASTER?
DID HE HURT YOU?
Hmm.. A MIGHTY JEDI... TWO LIGHTSABERS AGAINST MY POOR STICK.
EXAR KUN, YOU ARE THE MOST FORMIDABLE STUDENT I HAVE EVER HAD...
ONLY I KNOW MY HEART, MASTER.
BUT I SENSE SOMETHING IS MISSING IN YOU.
--AN EMPTY PLACE HIDDEN EVEN FROM YOURSELF--
--A PLACE THAT REMAINS UNSEEN BECAUSE NO LIGHT ESCAPES FROM THAT REGION OF YOUR HEART.

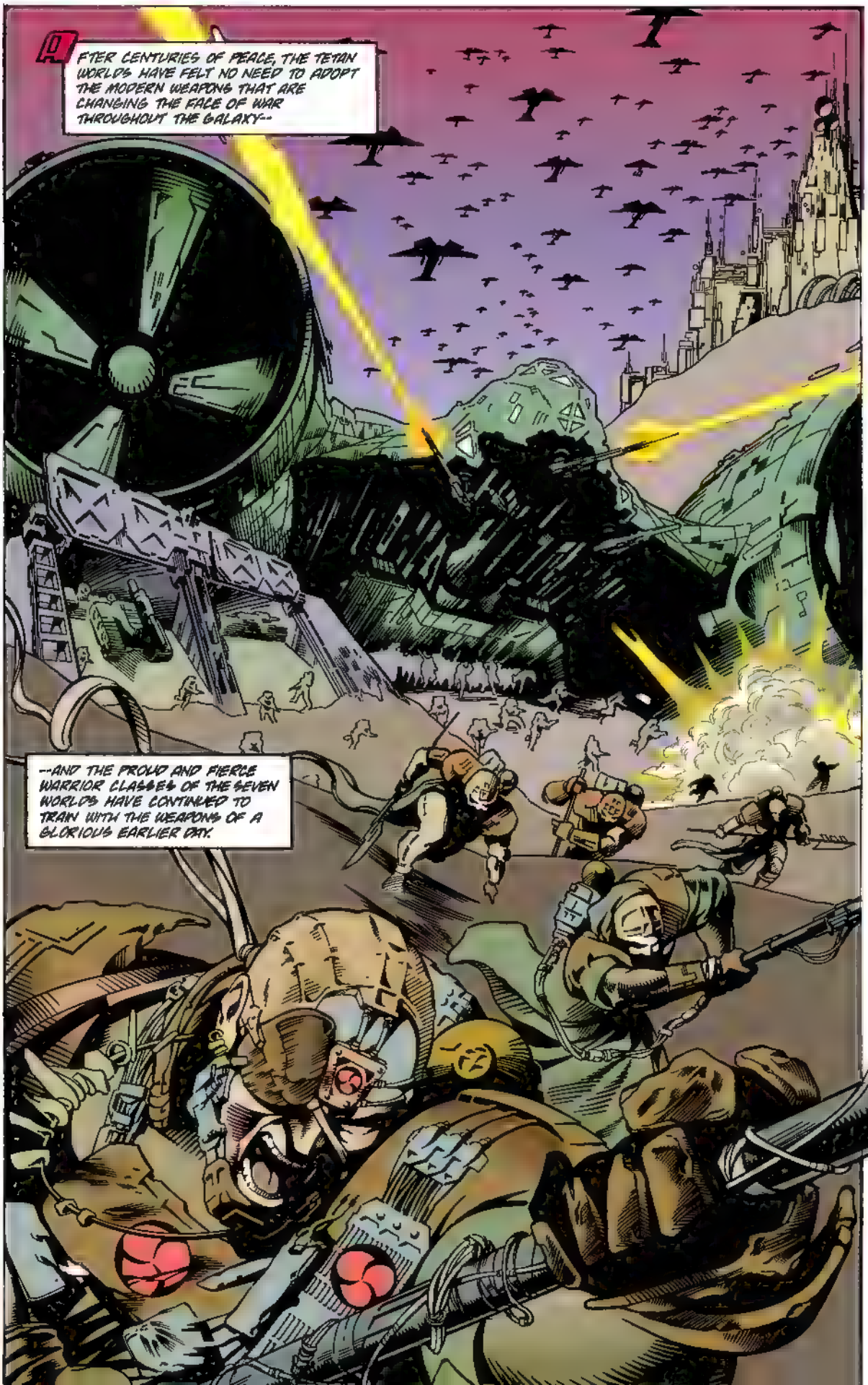
ONDERON.
IT IS MORE THAN A MONTH SINCE MASTER ARLA DISPATCHED ULIC QEL-DROMA AND NOMI SUNRIDER TO ORGANIZE A JOINT JEDI AND REPUBLIC EFFORT TO RESTORE PEACE TO THE EMPRESS TETA SYSTEM.
IN THE MEANTIME, ON ONDERON, AN ANCIENT DERELICT STARSHIP IS BEING CONVERTED INTO A JEDI OUTPOST. IT IS THE VERY SHIP THAT BROUGHT FREEDON NADD TO THE PLANET FOUR CENTURIES BEFORE!
AS THEY SUPERVISE THE COMPLETION OF THE OUTPOST, JEDI KNIGHTS CAY QEL-DROMA AND TOTT DONEETA ARE EXPECTING AN IMPORTANT VISITOR--
HE'S A JEDI ARCHAEOLOGIST... SAYS HE'S INVESTIGATING FREEDON NADD AND THE SITH.
IS HE COMING TO CLAIM THE SITH ARTIFACTS WE FOUND IN KING OMMIN'S LAIR?

NO. MASTER ARCA SAID TO TELL HIM AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE ABOUT THE ARTIFACTS.
WHO IS THIS JEDI?
"HIS NAME IS EXAR KUN."
MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU. I AM KUN, JEDI ARCHAEOLOGIST.
MASTER VODO-SIOSK BAAS WAS MY TEACHER.
THE FORCE BE WITH YOU, JEDI.
I AM CAY QEL-DROMA AND THIS IS MY JEDI BROTHER, TOTT DONEETA.
I AM TOLD THAT YOU HAVE RECOVERED A TROVE OF SITH ARTIFACTS.
IS IT TRUE THEY BELONGED TO THE FALLEN JEDI FREEDON NADD?
THIS IS SO... OUR MASTER ARCA OF ARKANIA HAS ORDERED THEM SHIPPED DIRECTLY TO OSSUS.
BUT WE CAN SHOW YOU THE CITY OF IZIZ... WHERE FREEDON NADD HELD COURT.

THAT WON'T DO.
IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT AN OFFICIAL ARCHAEOLOGIST EXAMINE THE FIND BEFORE IT LEAVES THE PLANET.
WELL... WHY DON'T YOU COMPLAIN TO MASTER ARCA HIMSELF--? HERE HE COMES!
MASTER ARCA HAS TAMED ONE OF THE GREAT DXUN FLYING BEASTS AS A PET.. AND AS AIR TRANSPORTATION OVER THE WILD ONDERON OUTLANDS.
WNNFF.
MASTER ARCA.. THE FORCE BE WITH YOU. I AM EXAR KUN AND I HAVE COME TO ONDERON TO--
I KNOW WHY YOU'RE HERE.
I'M AFRAID WE CANNOT HELP YOU.

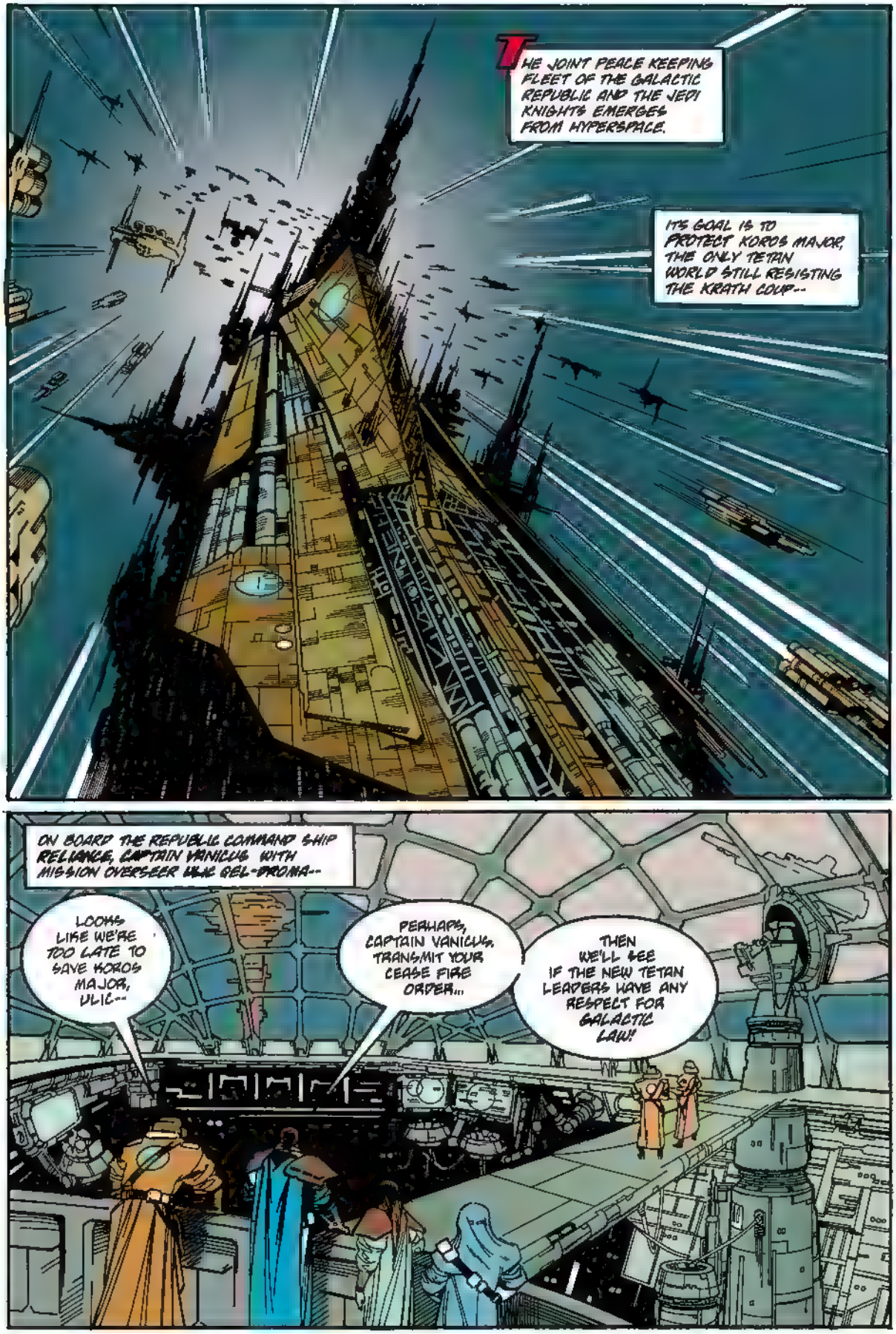
YOU MUST HAVE SPOKEN WITH MY MASTER, YODO-SIOSH BAAS...
HE IS UNAWARE THAT I AM NOW CONNECTED TO THE ACADEMY OF JEDI ARCHAEOLOGY. HE THINKS--
NO...I HAVEN'T SPOKEN WITH YOUR MASTER.
EVERYTHING I KNOW ABOUT YOU I HAVE LEARNED THROUGH THE FORCE.
I KNOW THAT YOUR FASCINATION WITH DARK-SIDE THINGS HAS ALREADY LED YOU INTO A LIE...
YOU ARE NO ARCHAEOLOGIST.
I THINK YOU OUGHT TO QUESTION YOUR FORCE PERCEPTIONS, MASTER ARCA.
AGE SOMETIMES PLAYS TRICKS ON THE MIND.
YES, AND SOMETIMES AS ONE GROWS OLDER, THE MIND SEES MORE CLEARLY.
YOU ARE NOT WELCOME ON ONDERON, EXAR KUN.
NONSENSE. I AM A JEDI KNIGHT AND AM FREE TO COME AND GO AS I PLEASE.
I WILL BEGIN MY RESEARCH WITHOUT YOUR HELP.
HE'S HEADING HIS SHIP FOR IZIZ
I DON'T UNDERSTAND, MASTER ARCA...WHY ISN'T EXAR KUN WELCOME HERE?
WHAT HE SAYS IS TRUE... A JEDI IS FREE TO COME AND GO AS HE PLEASES... AND TO FOLLOW THE PATH HE HAS CHOSEN.
...BUT I HAVE OTHER THINGS ON MY MIND JUST NOW.
I'VE BEEN INFORMED THAT THE JOINT JEDI AND REPUBLIC FORCES WILL SOON REACH THE TETA SYSTEM.
ULIC AND NOMI ARE ABOUT TO FACE A VERY GREAT TEST--


THE EMPRESS TETA SYSTEM.
UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF SITH TEACHINGS, REBELLIOUS YOUNG ARISTOCRATS SATAL KETO AND HIS COUSIN ALEEMA HAVE MURDERED THEIR PARENTS AND STAGED A POLITICAL COUP.
CALLING THEMSELVES "THE KRATH," AND USING PRIMITIVE DARK-SIDE MAGIC, THEY HAVE INSTITUTED A REIGN OF TERROR AMONG THE SEVEN TETAN WORLDS.
AS MASTER ARCA SPEAKS, THE KRATH ARE MOVING AN ANCIENT MILITARY COMMAND STATION INTO POSITION OVER KORROS MAJOR, THE LAST PLANET TO HOLD OUT AGAINST THE COUP--
THE ASSAULT SHIPS OF THE KRATH ARE UNIQUE TO THE TETAN SYSTEM--FLYING DECKS CRAMMED WITH SHOCKTROOPS WEARING CEREMONIAL ARMOR OF AN EARLIER TIME.

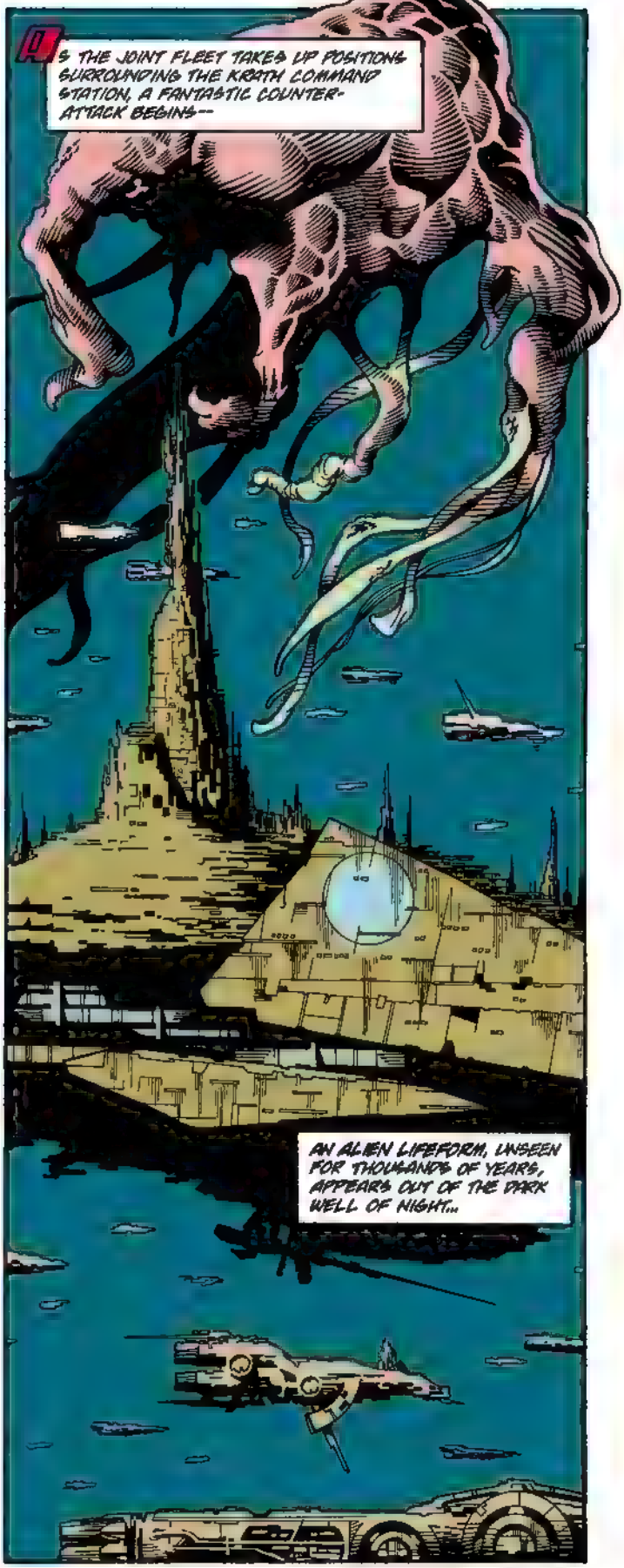

AFTER CENTURIES OF PEACE, THE TETAN WORLDS HAVE FELT NO NEED TO ADOPT THE MODERN WEAPONS THAT ARE CHANGING THE FACE OF WAR THROUGHOUT THE GALAXY--
--AND THE PROUD AND FIERCE WARRIOR CLASSES OF THE SEVEN WORLDS HAVE CONTINUED TO TRAIN WITH THE WEAPONS OF A GLORIOUS EARLIER DAY.

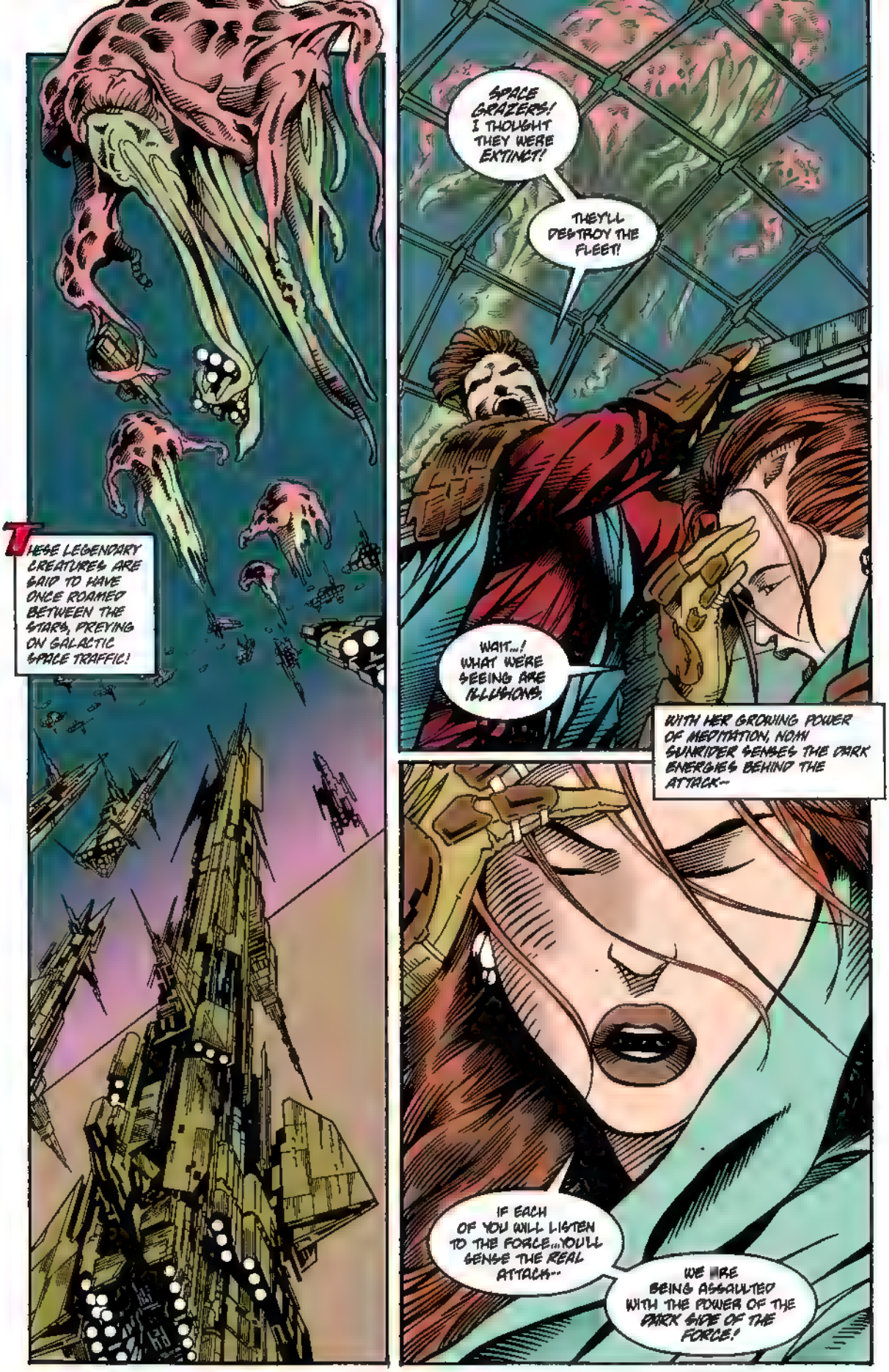
THE TETAN WARRIORS BOAST THAT THEIR SWORDS ARE A MATCH FOR ANY HAND-WEAPON IN THE GALAXY.
CERTAINLY AGAINST EACH OTHER, NEITHER SIDE HAS A CLEAR ADVANTAGE--
NOW THE KRATH RULERS SATAL KETO AND ALEEMA BRING AN EVEN OLDER AND MORE SINISTER WEAPON TO THEIR REIGN OF TERROR--SORCERY AND MYSTICAL POWER!
ALEEMA HAS BECOME PROFICIENT IN USING THE DARK SIDE OF THE FORCE TO ALTER HER OPPONENTS' PERCEPTIONS OF REALITY!
TELL ME, SATAL--WHAT WARRIOR CAN STAND WHO BELIEVES HIS SWORD HAS CEASED TO BE A SWORD?

EVEN FROM THE COMMAND STATION, HIGH ABOVE THE PLANET, ALEEMA'S SITH MAGIC DOES ITS WORK!
KOROS MAJOR IS THE LAST PLANET IN THE SYSTEM TO RESIST OUR WILL, ALEEMA.
THIS IS A TEST OF OUR POWER--
--IF THE PROUD SOLDIERS OF KOROS MAJOR CAN BE CONFOUNDED BY SITH MAGIC, CERTAINLY WE CAN TAKE ON THE JEDI THEMSELVES!
THAT REMAINS TO BE SEEN, SATAL.
CHECK THE SCANNERS-- I THINK YOU'RE ABOUT TO GET YOUR CHANCE!


THE JOINT PEACE KEEPING FLEET OF THE GALACTIC REPUBLIC AND THE JEDI KNIGHTS EMERGES FROM HYPERSPACE.
ITS GOAL IS TO PROTECT KOROS MAJOR, THE ONLY TETAN WORLD STILL RESISTING THE KRATH COUP--
ON BOARD THE REPUBLIC COMMAND SHIP RELIANCE, CAPTAIN VANICUS WITH MISSION OVERSEER ULIC QEL-DROMA--
LOOKS LIKE WE'RE TOO LATE TO SAVE KOROS MAJOR, ULIC--
PERHAPS, CAPTAIN VANICUS, TRANSMIT YOUR CEASE FIRE ORDER...
THEN WE'LL SEE IF THE NEW TETAN LEADERS HAVE ANY RESPECT FOR GALACTIC LAW!

LORD KETO... WE'VE RECEIVED A PRIORITY MESSAGE ON ALL CHANNELS.
THE REPUBLIC IS DEMANDING A CEASE-FIRE AT ONCE.
CAN I GIVE OUR ANSWER?
NO... GIVE THEM NO RESPONSE.
WE'LL LET THE POWER OF THE ANCIENT SITH SPEAK DIRECTLY TO THEM.
ARE YOU READY, ALEEMA?
YES, COUSIN. I'M READY.


AS THE JOINT FLEET TAKES UP POSITIONS SURROUNDING THE KRATH COMMAND STATION, A FANTASTIC COUNTER-ATTACK BEGINS--
AN ALIEN LIFEFORM, UNSEEN FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS, APPEARS OUT OF THE DARK WELL OF NIGHT...


These legendary creatures are said to have once roamed between the stars, preying on galactic space traffic!
Space grazers! I thought they were extinct!
They'll destroy the fleet!
Wait...! What were seeing are illusions.
With her growing power of meditation, Nom Sunrider senses the dark energies behind the attack--
If each of you will listen to the Force...you'll sense the real attack--
We are being assaulted with the power of the dark side of the Force!

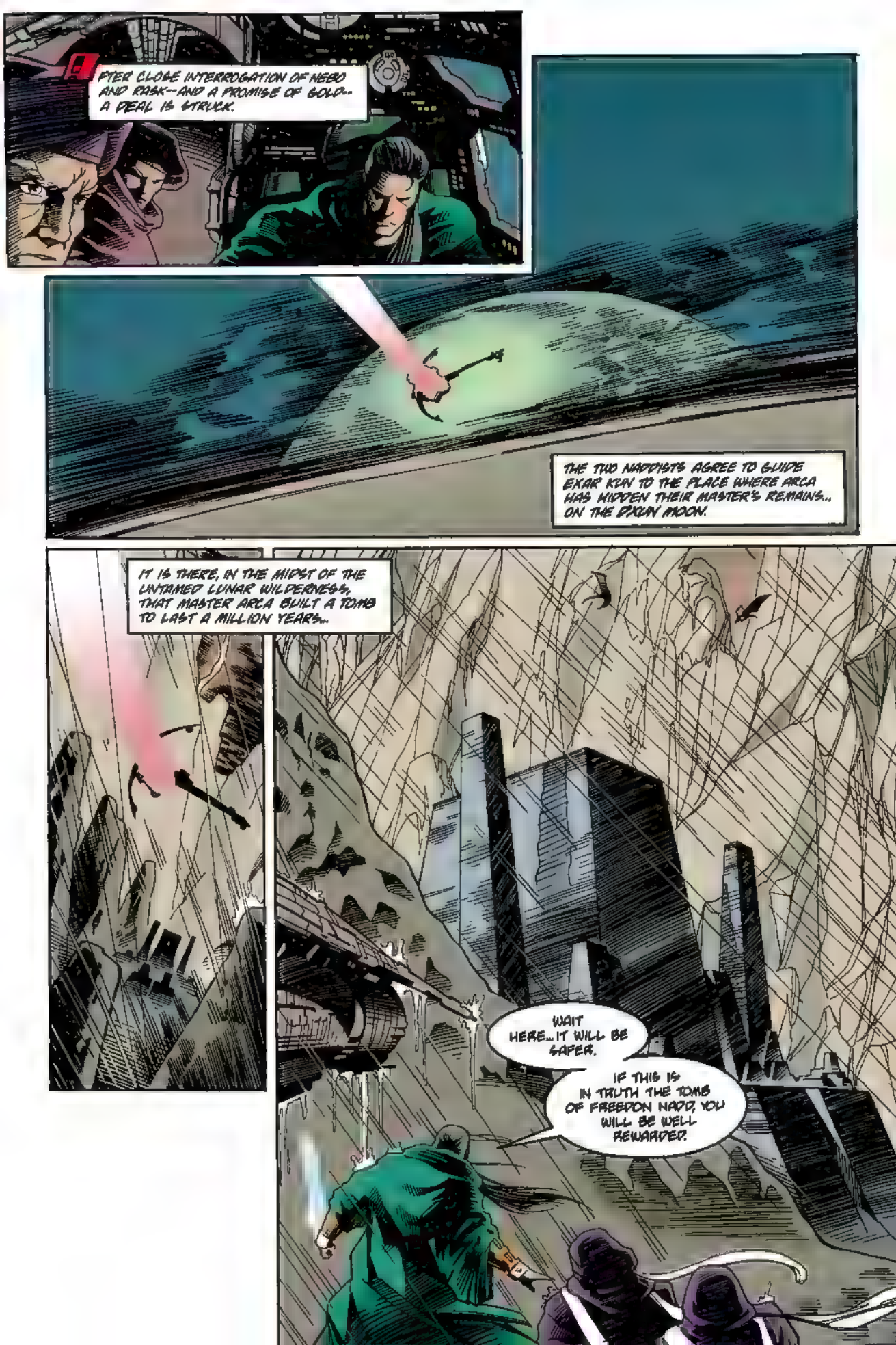
ONDERON.
EXAR KUN, ON HIS OWN IN THE GREAT CITY OF IZIZ, WANDERS THE TEEMING STREETS, SEEKING EVIDENCE OF ONDERON'S OMINOUS PAST.
KEEPING PART OF HIS ATTENTION FOCUSED IN THE FORCE, HE FINDS HIMSELF INEXPLICABLY DRAWN TO A PLAZA WHERE TWO STREET PHILOSOPHERS NAMED NEBO AND RASK HARANGUE A CROWD--
HEAR ME PEOPLE OF IZIZ!
FREEDON NADD GAVE THIS CITY STRENGTH AGAINST THE WILD MEN AND THEIR BEASTS--
--AS LONG AS KING OMMIN AND QUEEN AMANDA CARRIED ON THAT NOBLE RULE...THE GREAT POWER OF FREEDON NADD REMAINED WITH US!
NOW THAT POWER HAS BEEN TAKEN FROM US BY THE HATEFUL JEDI KNIGHTS.
THESE MEDDLERS HAVE DESTROYED THE ANCIENT ONDERON SOCIETY!
YOU'RE CRAZY, NEBO-- JUST LIKE YOUR FATHER!
DARK SIDERS YOUR DAY IS FINISHED!

DOWN WITH NADDISTS!
ONDERON IS FREE OF THE CURSE OF NADD!

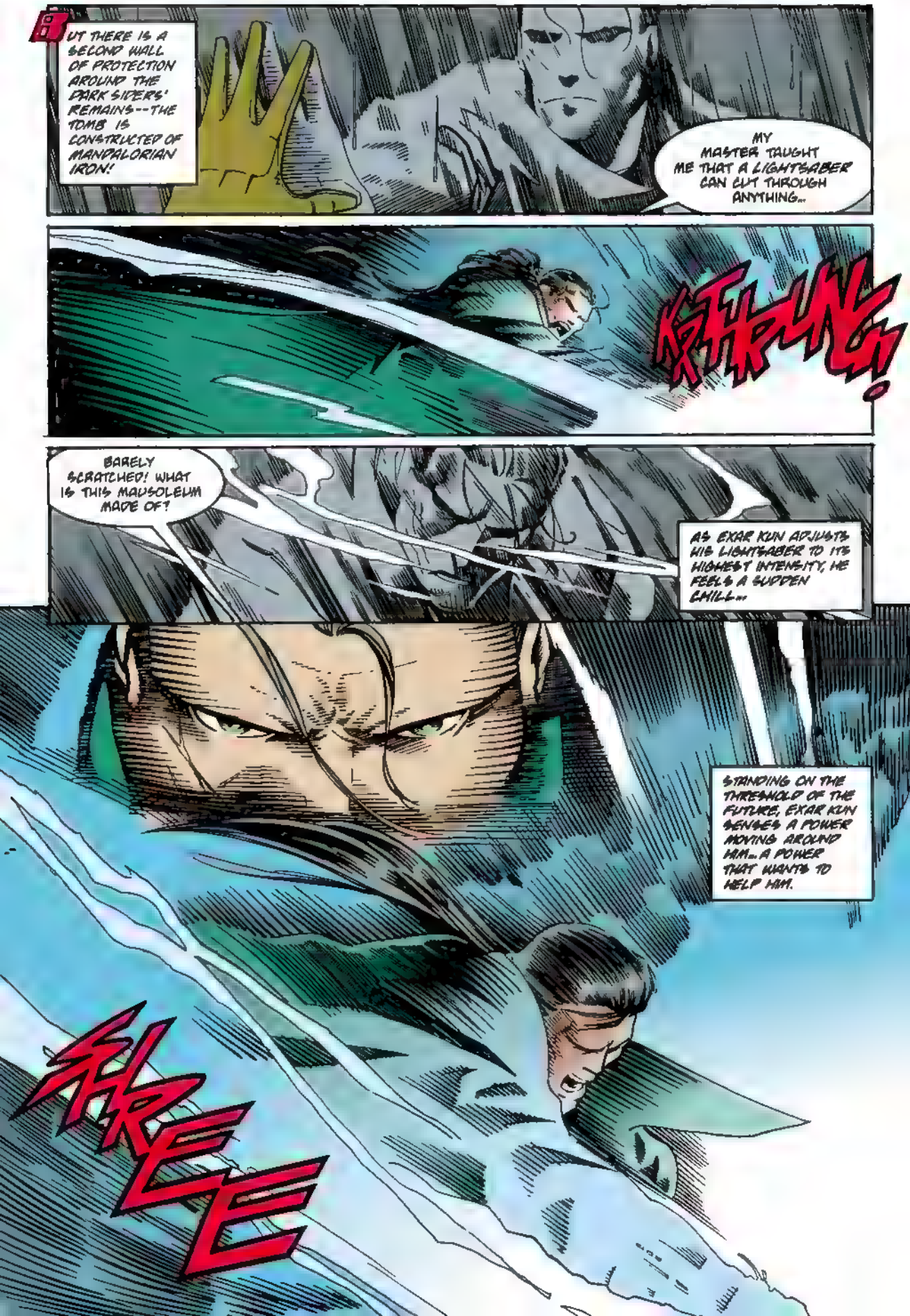
THE PEOPLE OF IZIZ MAY JUSTLY OPPOSE THE RETURN OF NADDIST POLITICS TO THEIR CITY... BUT NO JEDI CAN SUPPORT THE POLITICS OF MOB RULE!
A JEDI!
LET HIM THROUGH! HE'LL TAKE CARE OF THESE NADDISTS!
SHRRUMMMMM

NO... I AM HERE TO SEE THAT JUSTICE IS DONE!
WHY ARE YOU AFRAID TO LET THESE MEN SPEAK?

WHAT KIND OF JEDI WOULD SAVE THE LIVES OF FOLLOWERS OF FREEDON NADD?
COME WITH ME. I BELIEVE YOU TWO CAN HELP ME.


AFTER CLOSE INTERROGATION OF NEBO AND RASK--AND A PROMISE OF GOLD--A DEAL IS STRUCK.
THE TWO NADDISTS AGREE TO GUIDE EXAR KUN TO THE PLACE WHERE ARCA HAS HIDDEN THEIR MASTER'S REMAINS... ON THE DXUN MOON.
IT IS THERE, IN THE MIDST OF THE UNTAMED LUNAR WILDERNESS, THAT MASTER ARCA BUILT A TOMB TO LAST A MILLION YEARS...
WAIT HERE... IT WILL BE SAFER.
IF THIS IS IN TRUTH THE TOMB OF FREEDON NADD, YOU WILL BE WELL REWARDED.

SINCE PRIMEVAL TIMES, THE OXUN MOON HAS BELONGED TO MONSTROUS CREATURES, SAVAGE DEVOURERS OF ANY WHO DARE TO INTRUDE ON THEIR LUNAR PRESERVE.
THRRRRG
AH, YES... THEY TOLD ME ABOUT YOU!
SHHRRUMMMMM
KRRYYAAAA!
OBVIOUSLY MASTER ARCA THOUGHT THESE OXUN BEASTS WOULD PROVIDE NATURAL GUARDIANS FOR THE TOMB!
HE THOUGHT WRONG.


BUT THERE IS A SECOND WALL OF PROTECTION AROUND THE DARK SIDERS' REMAINS--THE TOMB IS CONSTRUCTED OF MANDALORIAN IRON!
MY MASTER TAUGHT ME THAT A LIGHTSABER CAN CUT THROUGH ANYTHING...
KRTHRUNG!
BARELY SCRATCHED! WHAT IS THIS MAUSOLEUM MADE OF?
AS EXAR KUN ADJUSTS HIS LIGHTSABER TO ITS HIGHEST INTENSITY, HE FEELS A SUDDEN CHILL...
STANDING ON THE THRESHOLD OF THE FUTURE, EXAR KUN SENSES A POWER MOVING AROUND HIM... A POWER THAT WANTS TO HELP HIM.
SHREE

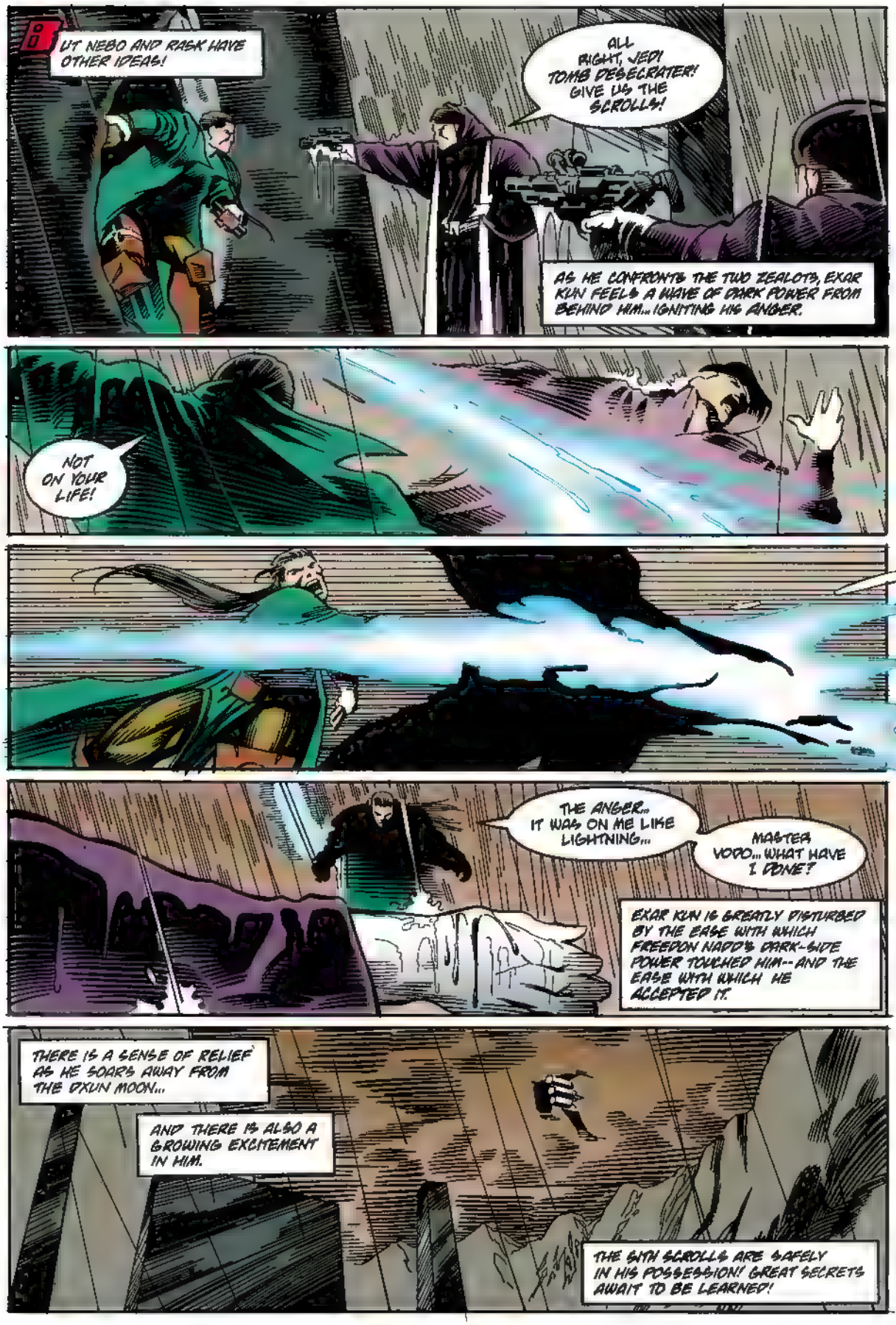
THE TOMB IS BREACHED. THE DARKNESS WITHIN IS A PALPABLE EVIL.
AS HE BEHOLDS THE SARCOPHAGI OF KING OMMIN AND QUEEN AMANDA, AND FREEDON NADD, THE YOUNG JEDI FEELS PROFOUND MISGIVINGS...
EXAR KUN SEEMS TO HEAR MASTER VODO, WARNING HIM TO TURN BACK.

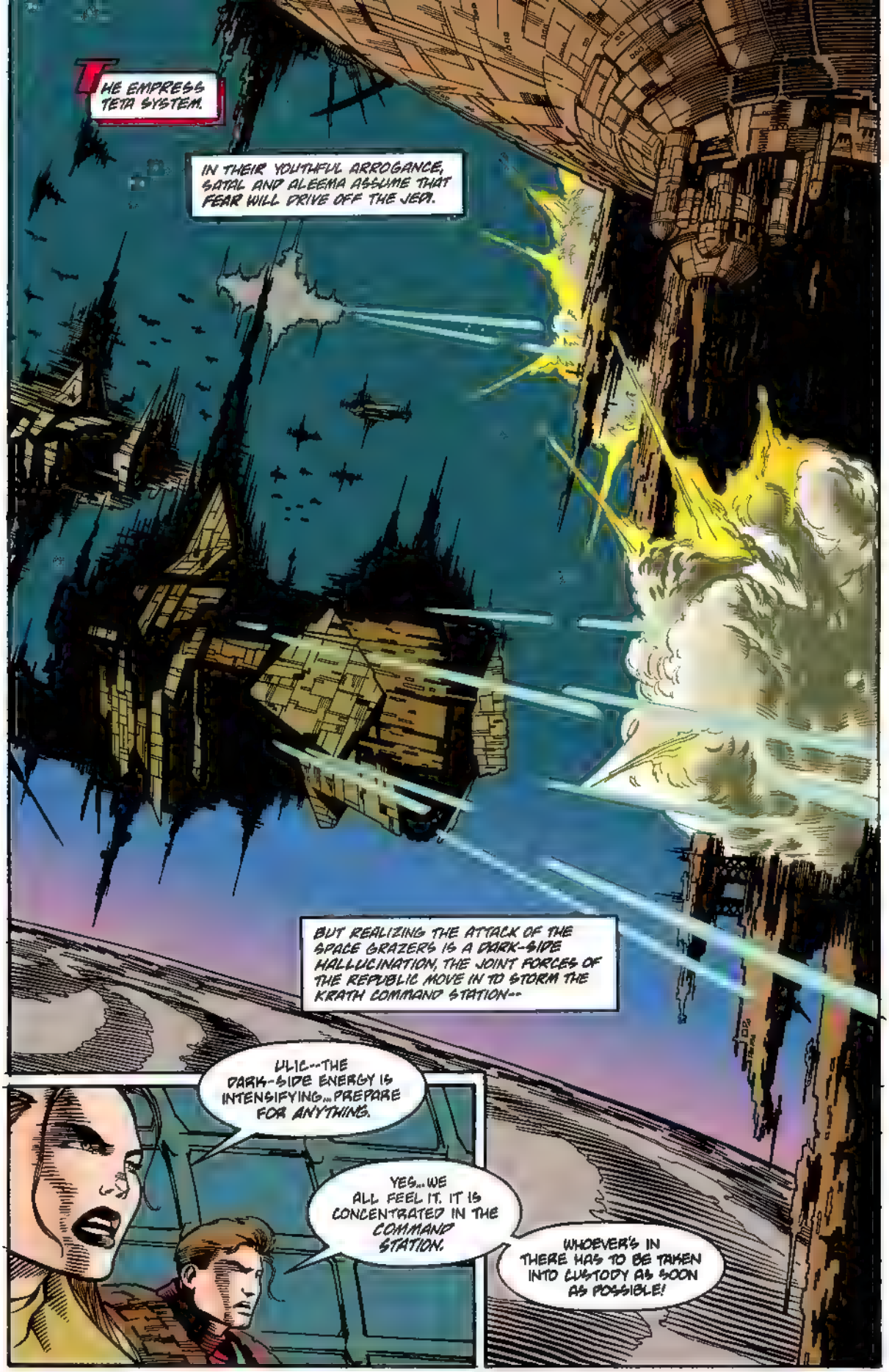
BUT MONTHS AGO THE CHOICE WAS MADE...TO INVESTIGATE THE FORBIDDEN SECRETS OF THE DARK SIDE.

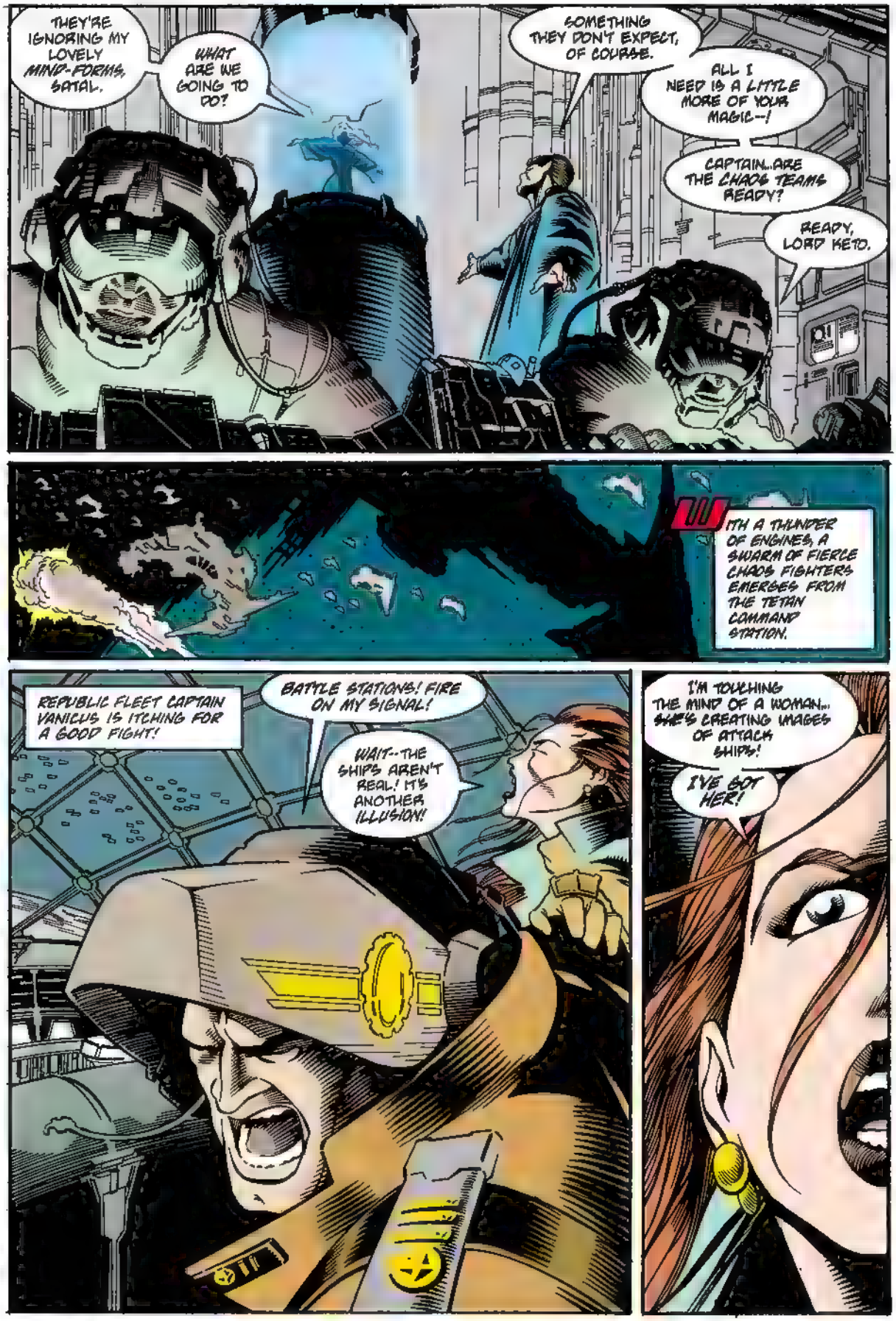
FREEDON NADD!

FOOLISH YOUNG JEDI!
WHAT KIND OF MADMAN ARE YOU, WHO DARES TO VIOLATE MY FINAL RESTING PLACE?

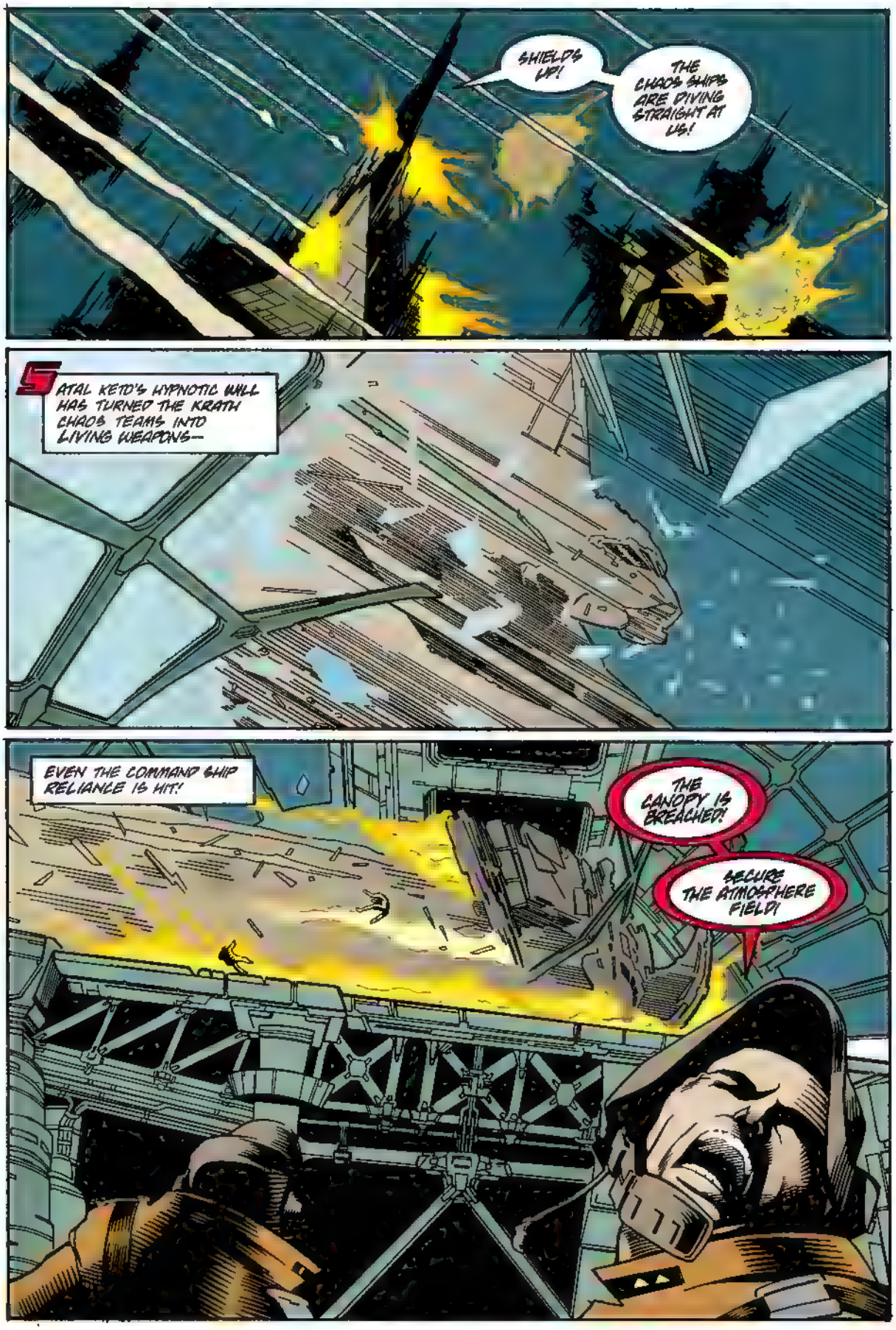
YOUR FASCINATION WITH DARK-SIDE THINGS WILL GET YOU IN GRAVE TROUBLE--
YOU... YOU'RE NOT REAL... Y-YOU'RE A SPIRIT!
YES!..AND A SPIRIT CAN GIVE A GIFT! SOMETHING TO SET YOU ON YOUR TRUE PATH!
BENEATH THE HUSK OF MY FORMER SELF.. THERE LIES A SECRET.
TAKE THE CORPSE OUT OF THE SARCOPHAGUS! DO IT!
XAR KLN HESITATES AS HE AGAIN SEEMS TO HEAR THE VOICE OF HIS OLD MASTER WARNING HIM...
AND THEN HE OBEYS THE COMMAND OF THE DARK-SIDE SPIRIT.
THERE! TAKE THESE SCROLLS!
WRITTEN BY THE HAND OF THE DARK LORD WHO WAS MY MASTER!
MY LORD'S WORDS WILL GUIDE YOU...TO THE LAST HOME OF THE SITH...
THERE YOU AND I WILL MEET AGAIN... TO BEGIN THE AWAKENING.


UT NEBO AND RASK HAVE OTHER IDEAS!
ALL RIGHT, JEDI TOMB DESECRATER! GIVE US THE SCROLLS!
AS HE CONFRONTS THE TWO ZEALOTS, EXAR KUN FEELS A WAVE OF DARK POWER FROM BEHIND HIM... IGNITING HIS ANGER.
NOT ON YOUR LIFE!
THE ANGER... IT WAS ON ME LIKE LIGHTNING...
MASTER VODO... WHAT HAVE I DONE?
EXAR KUN IS GREATLY DISTURBED BY THE EASE WITH WHICH FREEDON NADD'S DARK-SIDE POWER TOUCHED HIM-- AND THE EASE WITH WHICH HE ACCEPTED IT.
THERE IS A SENSE OF RELIEF AS HE SOARS AWAY FROM THE DXUN MOON...
AND THERE IS ALSO A GROWING EXCITEMENT IN HIM.
THE SITH SCROLLS ARE SAFELY IN HIS POSSESSION! GREAT SECRETS AWAIT TO BE LEARNED!


THE EMPRESS TETA SYSTEM.
IN THEIR YOUTHFUL ARROGANCE, SATAL AND ALEEMA ASSUME THAT FEAR WILL DRIVE OFF THE JEDI.
BUT REALIZING THE ATTACK OF THE SPACE GRAZERS IS A DARK-SIDE HALLUCINATION, THE JOINT FORCES OF THE REPUBLIC MOVE IN TO STORM THE KRATH COMMAND STATION--
ULIC--THE DARK-SIDE ENERGY IS INTENSIFYING... PREPARE FOR ANYTHING.
YES... WE ALL FEEL IT. IT IS CONCENTRATED IN THE COMMAND STATION.
WHOEVER'S IN THERE HAS TO BE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!


THEY'RE IGNORING MY LOVELY MIND-FORMS, SATAL.
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?
SOMETHING THEY DON'T EXPECT, OF COURSE.
ALL I NEED IS A LITTLE MORE OF YOUR MAGIC--!
CAPTAIN...ARE THE CHAOS TEAMS READY?
READY, LORD KETO.
WITH A THUNDER OF ENGINES, A SWARM OF FIERCE CHAOS FIGHTERS EMERGES FROM THE TETAN COMMAND STATION.
REPUBLIC FLEET CAPTAIN VANICUS IS ITCHING FOR A GOOD FIGHT!
BATTLE STATIONS! FIRE ON MY SIGNAL!
WAIT--THE SHIPS AREN'T REAL! IT'S ANOTHER ILLUSION!
I'M TOUCHING THE MIND OF A WOMAN... SHE'S CREATING IMAGES OF ATTACK SHIPS!
I'VE GOT HER!

FINGERS OF BRIGHT FORCE SEEM TO TEAR APART ALEEMA'S VERY THOUGHTS!
NO! LEAVE ME ALONE!
NO!
AAIEE!
WHAT IS IT, COUSIN?
WHAT IS IT?
IT'S ALL RIGHT... YOUR ILLUSIONS ARE FADING...
BUT AS I SAID... ALL WE NEEDED WAS A LITTLE HELP.
THE PILOTS I HAVE PLACED UNDER MY COMMAND WILL DO THE REST!
THE JOINT JEDI AND REPUBLIC PEACEKEEPERS REALIZE TOO LATE THEY'VE BEEN TRICKED--
YES--MANY SHIPS ARE ILLUSORY... BUT MANY MORE ARE REAL!


SHIELDS UP!
THE CHAOS SHIPS ARE DIVING STRAIGHT AT US!
SATAL KETO'S HYPNOTIC WILL HAS TURNED THE KRATH CHAOS TEAMS INTO LIVING WEAPONS—
EVEN THE COMMAND SHIP RELIANCE IS HIT!
THE CANOPY IS BREACHED!
SECURE THE ATMOSPHERE FIELD!

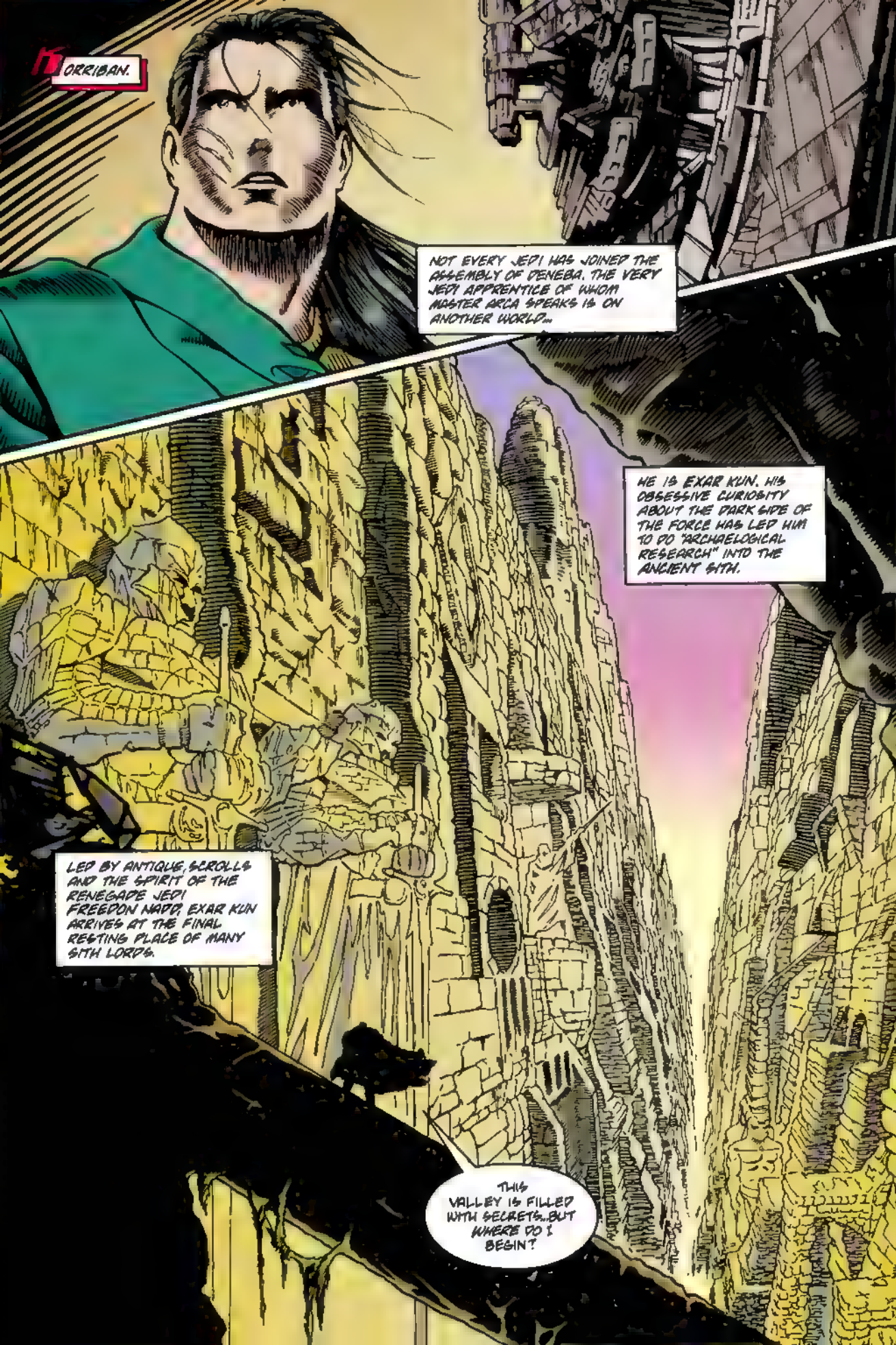
AS THE BURNING CHAOS FIGHTER LODGES IN A BULKHEAD, ULIC QEL-DROMA IS HIT BY FLYING SLAG!
ULIC... HOLD TO THE LIGHT!
I'M GOING TO PULL OUT THIS SHRAPNEL.
I...I DON'T THINK IT HIT ANY VITAL ORGANS.
Uuhh... AAAH!
IT'S MY FAULT I FELL FOR THEIR TRAP!
I'M ORDERING A RETREAT. THE SHIP'S OKAY...WE CAN MAKE IT BACK TO BASE.
WE'VE GOT TO RETHINK THIS WHOLE OPERATION.
ULIC... IF YOU HEAR ME... PUSH THE DARK POWER AWAY...
THIS WOUND WILL HEAL...IT HAS TO HEAL.

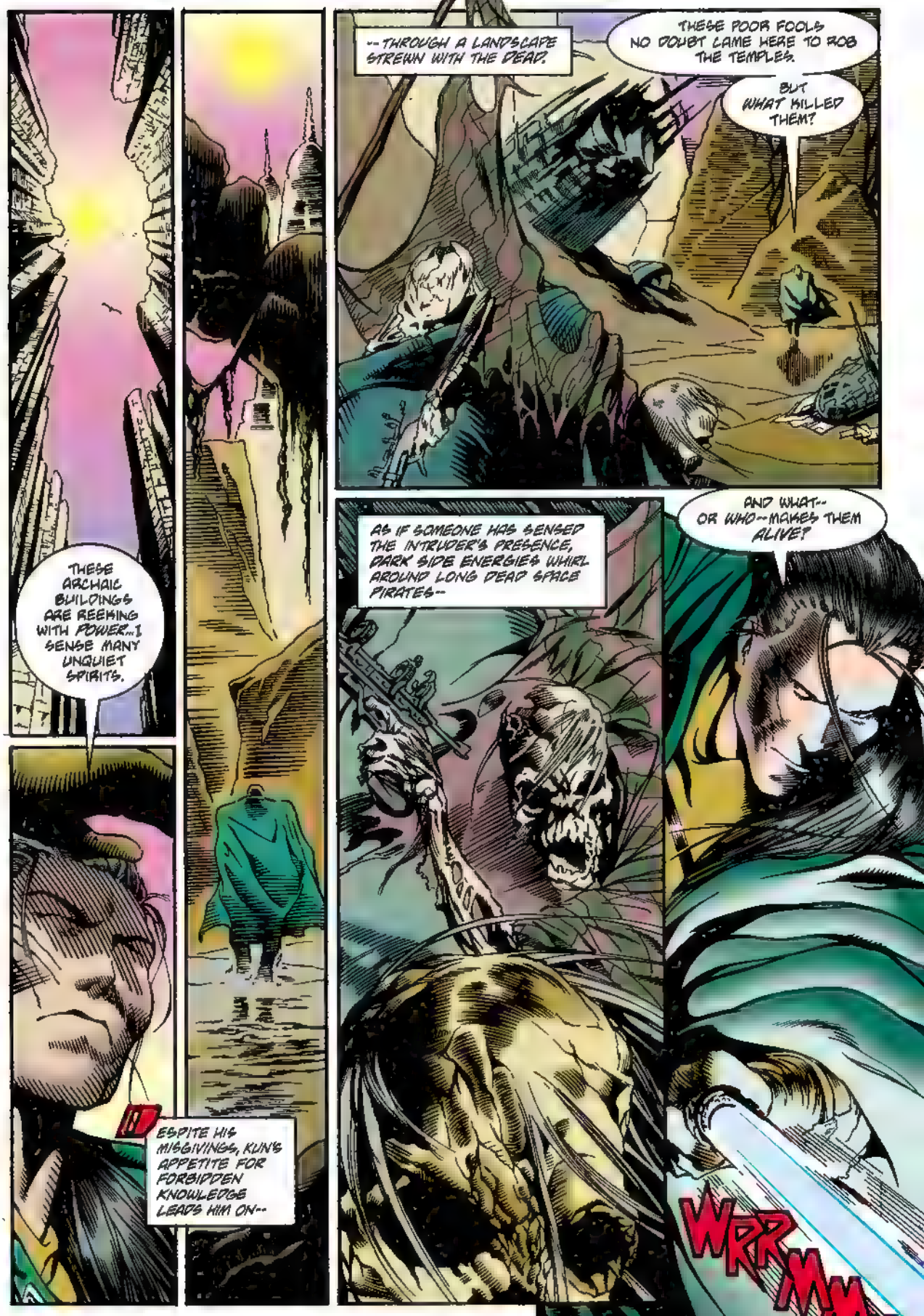
MANY LIGHT-YEARS AWAY, ABOARD HIS SHIP STARSTORM ONE, EXAR KUN USES AN ELECTRONIC TRANSLATOR TO EXAMINE THE ANCIENT SCROLLS GIVEN HIM BY THE SPIRIT OF FREEDON NADD.
ONCE THE DARK JEDI HAD DOMINATED THE SITH, THEY THREATENED TO SUBVERT THE VERY EXISTENCE OF THE REPUBLIC.
THEIR POWER WAS GREATLY FEARED, AND THE SITH WERE MARKED FOR EXTERMINATION.
FASCINATING. NO WONDER MASTER VODO DIDN'T WANT TO TEACH ME ABOUT THE SITH.
"PERSECUTED FOR THEIR KNOWLEDGE... KNOWLEDGE THAT WAS FEARED BY LESSER MEN...THEY WANDERED FROM SYSTEM TO SYSTEM, LEAVING A TRAIL OF MYTHS AND LEGENDS ..
"...AND THE WORLD KORRIBAN WAS TO BE THEIR FINAL RESTING PLACE."

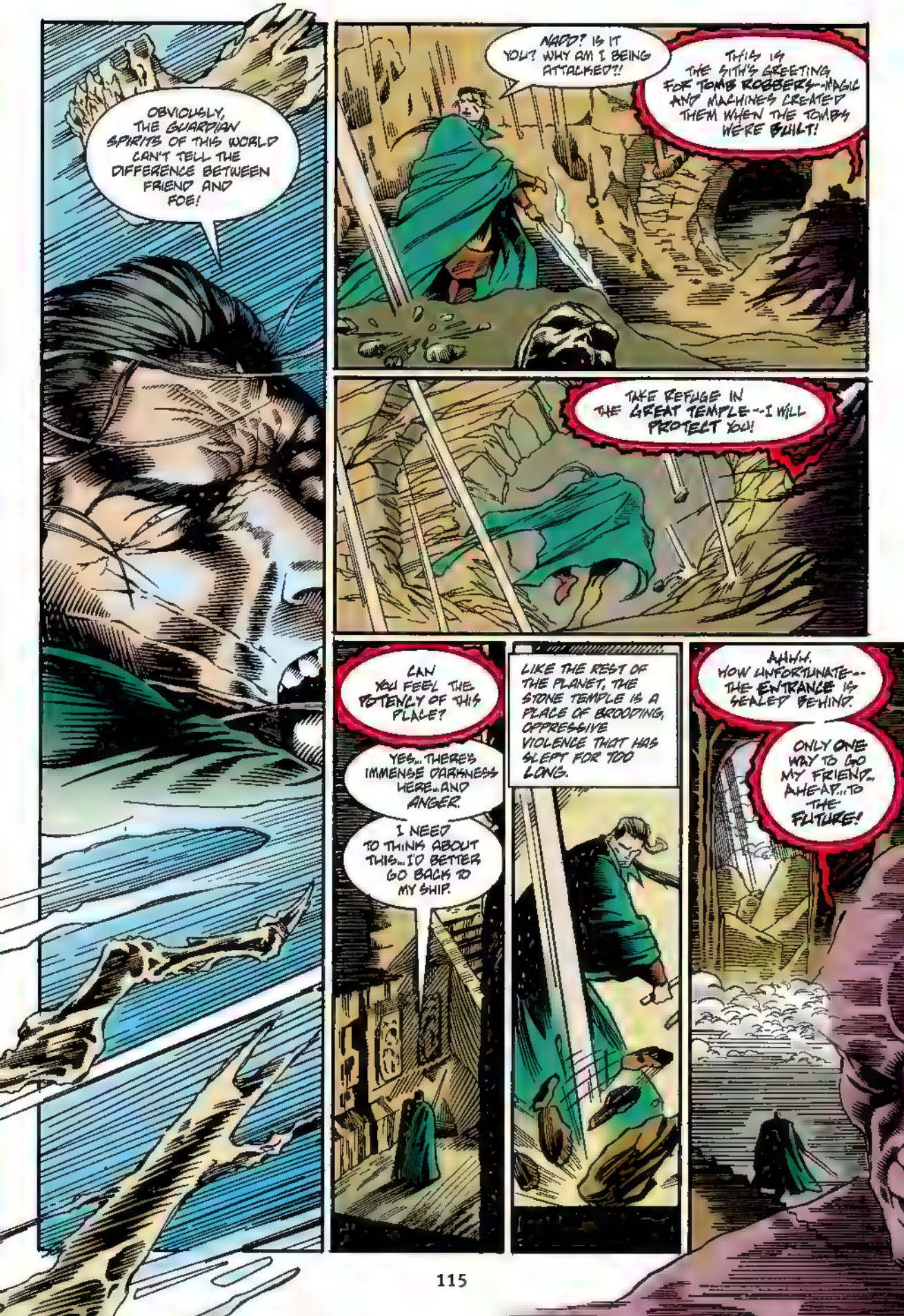
9
ENEBA.
FROM EVERY SECTOR OF THE GALAXY, THOUSANDS OF JEDI MASTERS AND JEDI KNIGHTS CONVERGE ON THE RED PLANET TO DEBATE MOMENTOUS EVENTS--
THE JEDI KNIGHTS GATHER IN LARGE NUMBERS ONLY IN TIMES OF GREAT DANGER. THIS IS SUCH A TIME--
--BOLD YOUNG MAGICIANS, CALLING THEMSELVES THE KRATH, HAVE USED ANCIENT SITH MAGIC TO MURDER THEIR PARENTS AND TAKE POLITICAL CONTROL OF THE EMPRESS TETA SYSTEM!

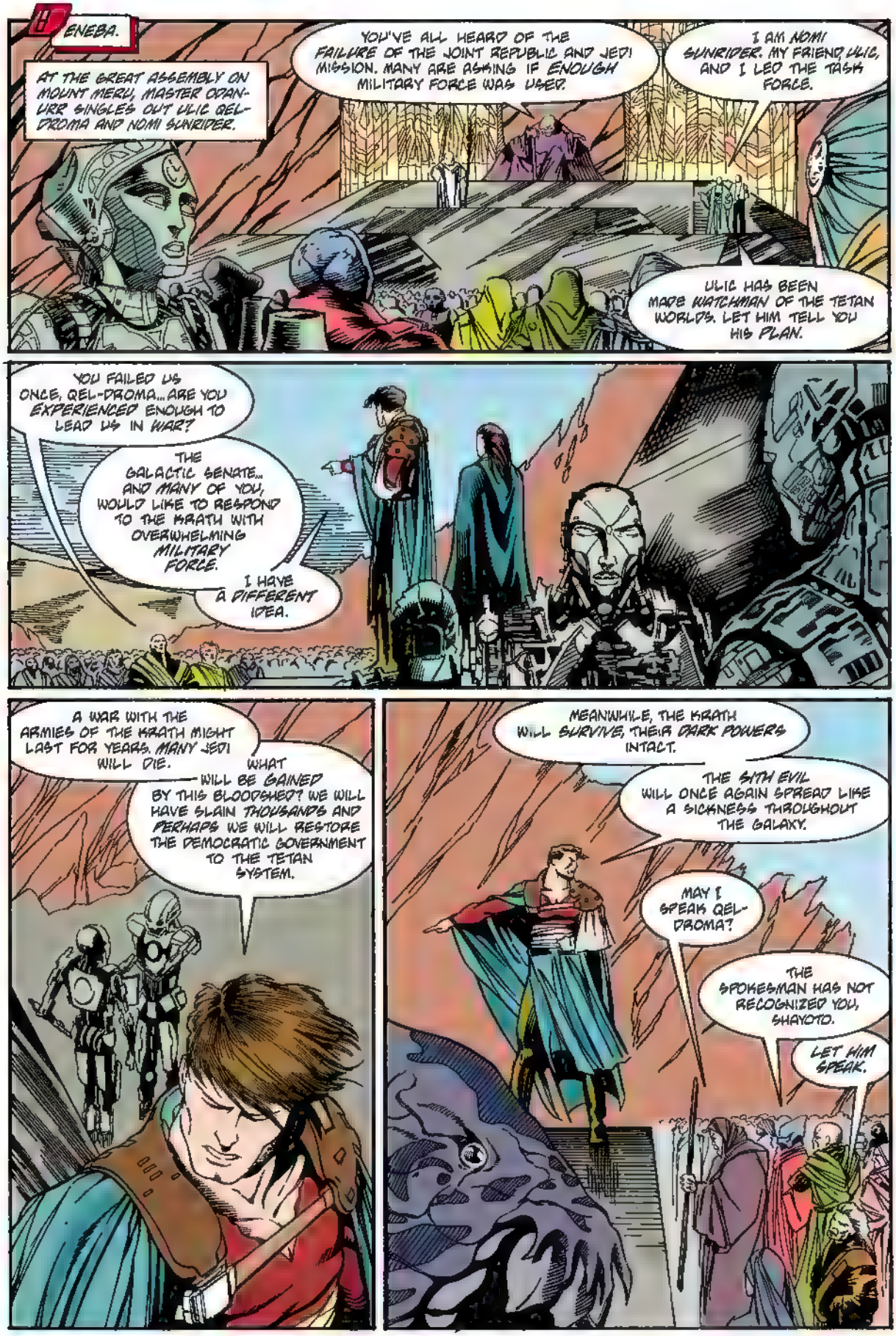
JOINT JEDI/REPUBLIC TASK FORCE ATTEMPTED TO QUELL THE KRATH TERROR ATTACKS ON THE TETAN WORLDS--AND MET WITH A VENOMOUS RESPONSE.
NOW, AGAINST ALL GALACTIC TRADITION, THE KRATH HAVE ARROGANTLY DECLARED WAR ON THE JEDI KNIGHTS.
MASTER ARLA... DESPITE ALL THE APPEALS OF THE GALACTIC SENATE, THE BRUTAL ATROCITIES CONTINUE IN THE EMPRESS TETA SYSTEM..
YES.. THE KRATH HAVE UNLEASHED THE DARK SIDE WITH GREAT MALEVOLENCE.
THE JEDI ARE DETERMINED TO BRING THE KRATH TO JUSTICE. BUT AMONG THE GATHERING ON MOUNT MERU FEW HAVE FORESEEN THE FAR GREATER DISTURBANCE THAT IS ABOUT TO DIVIDE THE GALAXY.
TAKE YOUR PLACES, PLEASE... LET US BEGIN THE MEETING!

MASTER ODAN-URR, THE RESPECTED SPOKESMAN, HAS PRESIDED OVER THE JEDI ASSEMBLIES FOR SIX CENTURIES.
A TELEPATHIC ALIEN, ODAN-URR OFFICIATES BY CONTACTING THE ENTIRE COMPANY IN THE FORCE. IF A JEDI WISHES TO BE RECOGNIZED, HE MUST SILENTLY MAKE KNOWN HIS INTENTION.
PONDERING THE PAST...AND THE FUTURE, ODAN-URR WAITS FOR THE GREAT ASSEMBLAGE TO COME TO ORDER
YOUR WOUND... WHY ISN'T IT HEALED, ULIC?
IT'S NOT A NATURAL INJURY, NOMI... I'M SURE WE WERE BOMBARDED WITH SITH MAGIC WHEN THAT CHAOS FIGHTER HIT THE COMMAND DECK--
DACE...GRRRL TOO... WERE YOU AT THE BATTLE AT KOROS MAJOR?
SURE WERE. OUR COMMAND SHIP TOOK HEAVY CASUALTIES.
BUT WE GAVE AS GOOD AS WE GOT.
I FLEW WITH THE REPUBLIC STRIKE-TEAM. WE DOWNED FIFTY OF THOSE CLUNKY CHAOS SHIPS.
THE JEDI PROPHECIES PREDICT A GREAT CONFLICT WITH THE DARK SIDE.
SURE THEY DO, SHOANEB... BUT IT'S NOT SUPPOSED TO BEGIN FOR ANOTHER THOUSAND YEARS!
THE PROPHECIES ARE NOTORIOUSLY VAGUE. IT COULD HAPPEN AT ANY TIME.
NGRTH FESH--- WHERE'S VODO? LATE AS USUAL?
VODO'S IN GREAT TORMENT THESE DAYS...
ONE OF HIS STUDENTS LEFT HIM TO SEEK FORBIDDEN KNOWLEDGE. NO GOOD WILL COME OF IT, I'M SURE.

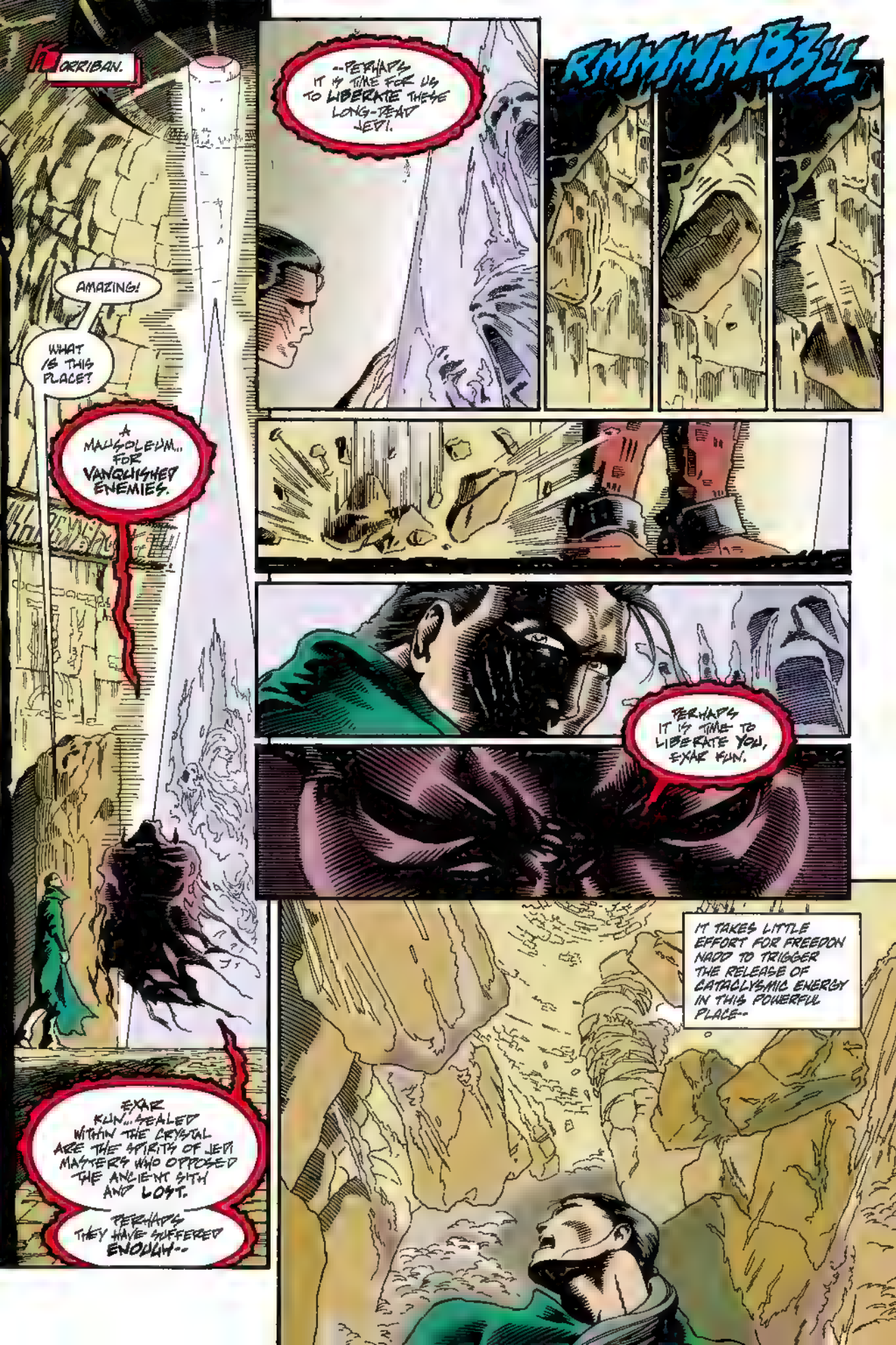

KORRIBAN.
NOT EVERY JEDI HAS JOINED THE ASSEMBLY OF DENEBA. THE VERY JEDI APPRENTICE OF WHOM MASTER ARCA SPEAKS IS ON ANOTHER WORLD...
HE IS EXAR KUN. HIS OBSESSIVE CURIOSITY ABOUT THE DARK SIDE OF THE FORCE HAS LED HIM TO DO "ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH" INTO THE ANCIENT SITH.
LED BY ANTIQUE SCROLLS AND THE SPIRIT OF THE RENEGADE JEDI FREEDON NADD, EXAR KUN ARRIVES AT THE FINAL RESTING PLACE OF MANY SITH LORDS.
THIS VALLEY IS FILLED WITH SECRETS...BUT WHERE DO I BEGIN?

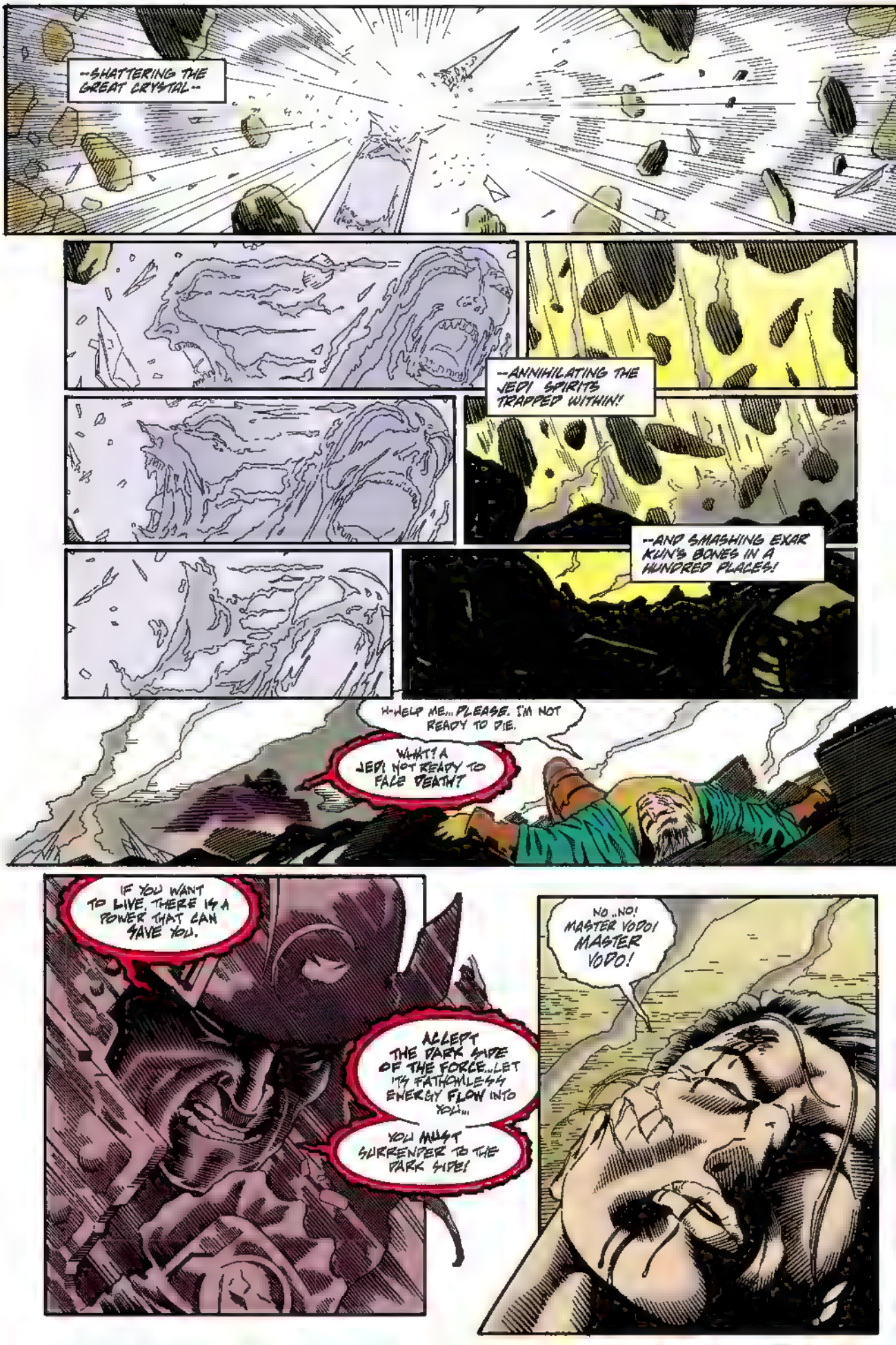

THESE ARCHAIC BUILDINGS ARE REEKING WITH POWER...I SENSE MANY UNQUIET SPIRITS.
ESPITE HIS MISGIVINGS, KUN'S APPETITE FOR FORBIDDEN KNOWLEDGE LEADS HIM ON--
--THROUGH A LANDSCAPE STREWN WITH THE DEAD.
THESE POOR FOOLS NO DOUBT CAME HERE TO ROB THE TEMPLES.
BUT WHAT KILLED THEM?
AS IF SOMEONE HAS SENSED THE INTRUDER'S PRESENCE, DARK SIDE ENERGIES WHIRL AROUND LONG DEAD SPACE PIRATES--
AND WHAT-- OR WHO--MAKES THEM ALIVE?
WRRMMMNN


OBVIOUSLY, THE GUARDIAN SPIRITS OF THIS WORLD CAN'T TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FRIEND AND FOE!
NADD? IS IT YOU? WHY AM I BEING ATTACKED?!
THIS IS THE SITH'S GREETING FOR TOMB ROBBERS--MAGIC AND MACHINES CREATED THEM WHEN THE TOMBS WERE BUILT!
TAKE REFUGE IN THE GREAT TEMPLE--I WILL PROTECT YOU!
CAN YOU FEEL THE POTENCY OF THIS PLACE?
YES... THERE'S IMMENSE DARKNESS HERE... AND ANGER.
I NEED TO THINK ABOUT THIS... I'D BETTER GO BACK TO MY SHIP.
LIKE THE REST OF THE PLANET, THE STONE TEMPLE IS A PLACE OF BROODING, OPPRESSIVE VIOLENCE THAT HAS SLEPT FOR TOO LONG.
AHHH. HOW UNFORTUNATE--THE ENTRANCE IS SEALED BEHIND.
ONLY ONE WAY TO GO MY FRIEND... AHEAD... TO THE FUTURE!

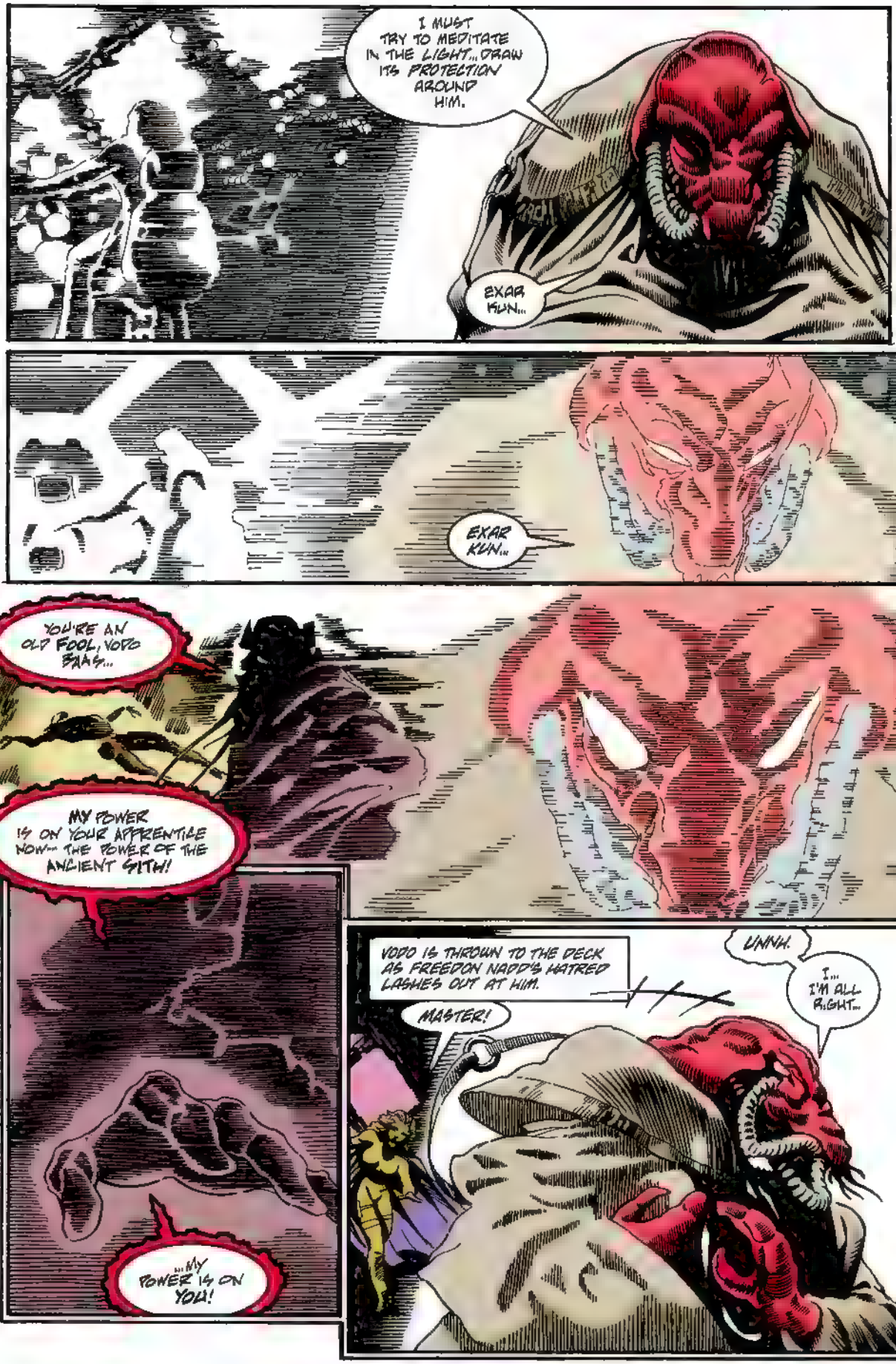

ENEBA.
AT THE GREAT ASSEMBLY ON MOUNT MERU, MASTER ODAN-URR SINGLES OUT ULIC QEL-DROMA AND NOMI SUNRIDER.
YOU'VE ALL HEARD OF THE FAILURE OF THE JOINT REPUBLIC AND JEDI MISSION. MANY ARE ASKING IF ENOUGH MILITARY FORCE WAS USED.
I AM NOMI SUNRIDER. MY FRIEND, ULIC, AND I LED THE TASK FORCE.
ULIC HAS BEEN MADE WATCHMAN OF THE TETAN WORLDS. LET HIM TELL YOU HIS PLAN.
YOU FAILED US ONCE, QEL-DROMA... ARE YOU EXPERIENCED ENOUGH TO LEAD US IN WAR?
THE GALACTIC SENATE... AND MANY OF YOU, WOULD LIKE TO RESPOND TO THE KRATH WITH OVERWHELMING MILITARY FORCE.
I HAVE A DIFFERENT IDEA.
A WAR WITH THE ARMIES OF THE KRATH MIGHT LAST FOR YEARS. MANY JEDI WILL DIE.
WHAT WILL BE GAINED BY THIS BLOODSHED? WE WILL HAVE SLAIN THOUSANDS AND PERHAPS WE WILL RESTORE THE DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT TO THE TETAN SYSTEM.
MEANWHILE, THE KRATH WILL SURVIVE, THEIR DARK POWERS INTACT.
THE SITH EVIL WILL ONCE AGAIN SPREAD LIKE A SICKNESS THROUGHOUT THE GALAXY.
MAY I SPEAK QEL-DROMA?
THE SPOKESMAN HAS NOT RECOGNIZED YOU, SHAYOTO.
LET HIM SPEAK.

THANK YOU, ARCA.
DOES ANYBODY REMEMBER THE VULTAR CATACLYSM? OR THE GANK MASSACRES? I DO! I HAVE LIVED A VERY LONG TIME.
MY MASTER ALSO LIVED MANY CENTURIES, AND HIS MASTER BEFORE HIM.
MY MASTER'S MASTER TOLD ME ABOUT THE HUNDRED-YEAR DARKNESS... AND THE GREAT HYPERSPACE WAR. HE TAUGHT ME HOW THE AGENTS OF THE DARK SIDE DO THEIR EVIL WORKS.
THE DARK SIDERS ACT IN COMPLETE SECRECY, UNTIL THE LEADERS OF SOCIETY HAVE FALLEN TO THEIR EVIL SEDUCTIONS.
THEN THEY STRIKE WITH GREAT SUDDENNESS, BRINGING DOWN CIVILIZATIONS IT TOOK AEONS TO BUILD.
Hmm. THESE SERVANT DROIDS, ARE ACTIN' STRANGE.
NO ONE DISAGREES WITH YOU, SHAYOTO--
--THE KRATH CONSPIRACY MUST BE TORN OUT BY ITS ROOTS BEFORE IT CAN SPREAD OUT TO OTHER SYSTEMS.
BUT THE ONLY WAY THAT WILL HAPPEN IS IF ONE OF US JOINS THE KRATH... AND LEARNS THE SECRETS THAT HAVE POSSESSED THEM AND MADE THEM POWERFUL!
NO! SUCH AN ATTEMPT WILL END IN DISASTER...FOR YOU...AND FOR ALL OF US!
UNTHINKABLE, QEL-DROMA! BETTER TO FIGHT THE DARK POWERS-- AS MASTER THON DID ON AMBRIA!
THON DIDN'T EXTINGUISH THE DARK SIDE ON AMBRIA. HE ONLY CONFINED IT.
SO SHALL WE. A WALL OF LIGHT, CREATED BY MANY JEDI JOINED TOGETHER, CAN PUSH THEM BACK...
ULIC, MY SON... HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I SAID IT? THERE'S THE WAY OF THE JEDI... AND THERE IS THE DARK PATH... WHICH LEADS ONLY TO DESTRUCTION.


KORRIBAN.
AMAZING!
WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
A MAUSOLEUM... FOR VANQUISHED ENEMIES.
EXAR KUN... SEALED WITHIN THE CRYSTAL ARE THE SPIRITS OF JEDI MASTERS WHO OPPOSED THE ANCIENT SITH AND LOST.
PERHAPS THEY HAVE SUFFERED ENOUGH--
--PERHAPS IT IS TIME FOR US TO LIBERATE THESE LONG-DEAD JEDI.
RMMMMBBLL
PERHAPS IT IS TIME TO LIBERATE YOU, EXAR KUN.
IT TAKES LITTLE EFFORT FOR FREEDON NADD TO TRIGGER THE RELEASE OF CATACLYSMIC ENERGY IN THIS POWERFUL PLACE--

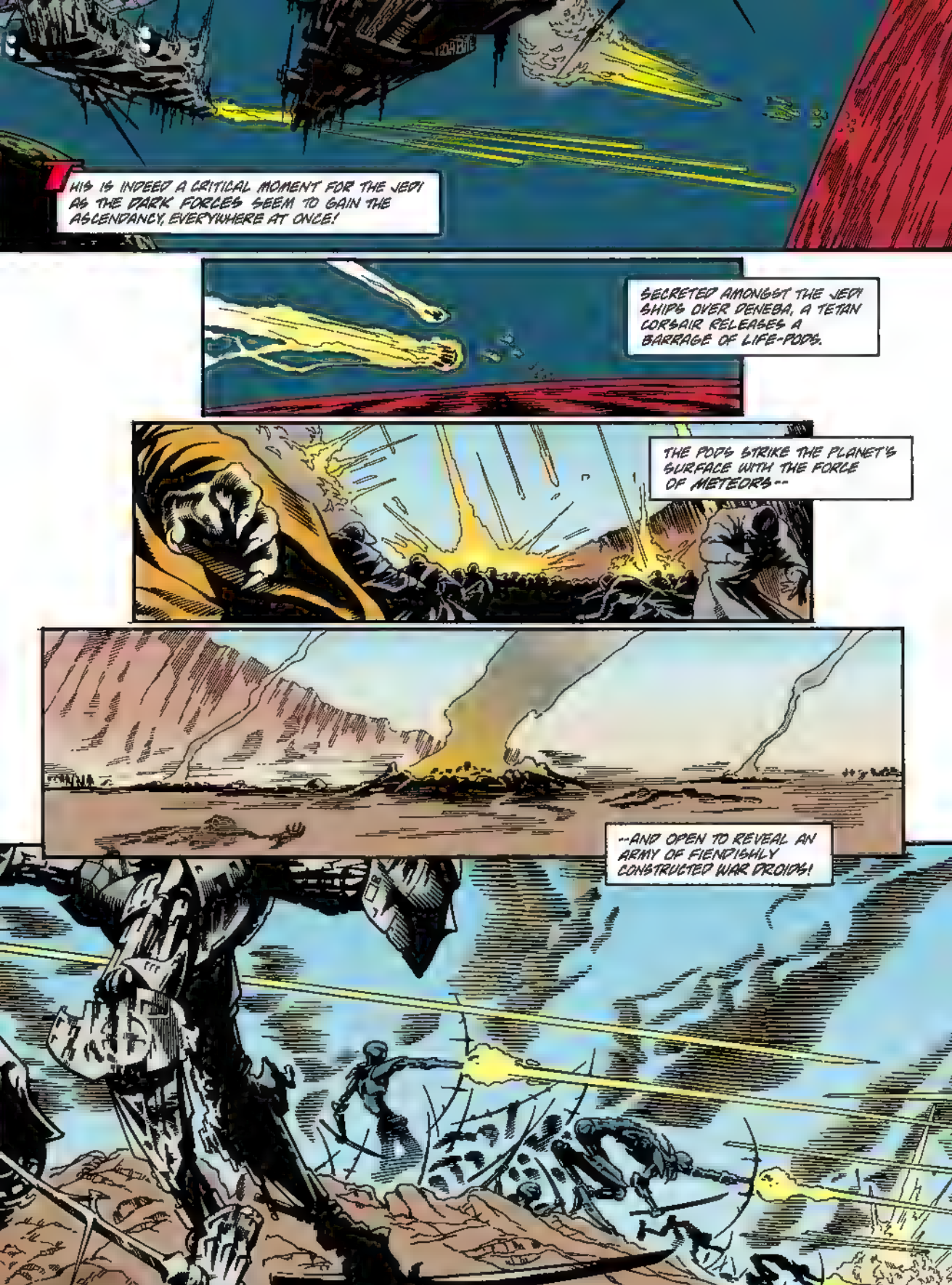

--SHATTERING THE GREAT CRYSTAL--
--ANNIHILATING THE JEDI SPIRITS TRAPPED WITHIN!
--AND SMASHING EXAR KUN'S BONES IN A HUNDRED PLACES!
H-HELP ME... PLEASE. I'M NOT READY TO DIE.
WHAT? A JEDI NOT READY TO FACE DEATH?
IF YOU WANT TO LIVE, THERE IS A POWER THAT CAN SAVE YOU.
ACCEPT THE DARK SIDE OF THE FORCE...LET ITS FATHOMLESS ENERGY FLOW INTO YOU...
YOU MUST SURRENDER TO THE DARK SIDE!
NO..NO! MASTER VODO! MASTER VODO!

EXAR KUN'S PROFOUND ANGUISH RESONATES THROUGH THE FORCE. MANY DISTANT JEDI SENSE IT--
--BUT ONLY ONE JEDI RECOGNIZES IT AS THE CRY OF HIS OWN APPRENTICE--
OH, EXAR... EXAR! IT IS AS I PREDICTED! DARKNESS HAS FOUND YOU!
ELSEWHERE ON VODO'S SHIP, HIS CATHAR APPRENTICES ARE ENJOYING THEIR LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER
SYLVAR... LET'S MARRY AND RETURN TO CATHAR. WITH THE KNOWLEDGE WE HAVE LEARNED FROM MASTER VODO, WE WILL BECOME RENOWNED AMONG OUR PEOPLE.
I LOVE YOU CRADO... AND I WILL GLADLY BEAR YOUR WHELP... BUT I AM A JEDI FOREVER.
CRADO... SYLVAR... WILL YOU TAKE THE CONTROLS...? WE ARE APPROACHING DENEBA.
SOMETHING TERRIBLE HAS HAPPENED TO EXAR KUN... I MUST HELP HIM... IF I CAN.
THE MERU SPACEPORT HAS CLEARED US FOR LANDING, MASTER.
HOW IS IT POSSIBLE TO HELP EXAR AT THIS DISTANCE, MASTER?


I MUST TRY TO MEDITATE IN THE LIGHT... DRAW ITS PROTECTION AROUND HIM.
EXAR KUN...
EXAR KUN...
YOU'RE AN OLD FOOL, VODO BAAS...
MY POWER IS ON YOUR APPRENTICE NOW-- THE POWER OF THE ANCIENT SITH!
...MY POWER IS ON YOU!
VODO IS THROWN TO THE DECK AS FREEDON NADD'S HATRED LASHES OUT AT HIM.
MASTER!
UNNH.
I... I'M ALL RIGHT...

"...IT IS YOUR JEDI BROTHER, EKAR MUN WHO IS IN MORTAL DANGER!"
POOR LITTLE JEDI. VODO CANNOT HELP YOU AT SUCH A GREAT DISTANCE.
NO ONE CAN HELP YOU...EXCEPT YOURSELF.
YOUR SKELETON IS SHATTERED. THERE'S NOT MUCH TIME. DO YOU WANT TO LIVE?
YES.
VERY WELL. THEN SURRENDER TO THE DARK SIDE.
NOOO... NOOO...
ALL RIGHT...YES...I ACCEPT.
YOU SAY THE WORDS, BUT YOU DO NOT OPEN YOURSELF.
I ACCEPT YOUR TERMS, DAMN YOU!
YOU ARE LYING.
UNLESS YOU SPEAK TRUTHFULLY, THE DARKNESS CANNOT HELP YOU.
I ACCEPT.
SURRENDER TO THE DARK SIDE OR YOU WILL DIE.
I SAID I ACCEPT!
GOOD--

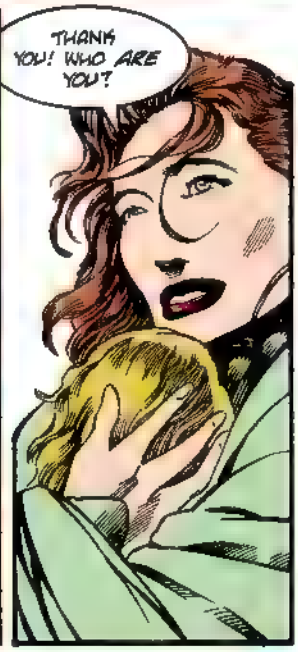
--THEN BE HEALED.
WHAT KIND OF HEALING CAN COME FROM THE DARK SIDE OF THE FORCE? EXAR KUN'S FRACTURED BONES KNIT, AND STRENGTH RETURNS...BUT NOTHING IS AS IT WAS BEFORE!
AT THAT MOMENT, ON DENEBA, AS MASTER ARCA ADDRESSES THE JEDI ASSEMBLY HE STOPS IN MID-SPEECH--
ULIC... LISTEN.
A SOUND... LIKE A MAN BEING EATEN ALIVE...OR IS IT THE WIND?
WE'VE LANDED, MASTER--DO YOU HEAR A STRANGE SCREAM?
THAT'S EXAR'S VOICE! I KNOW IT!
YES... THE SOUND YOU HEARD IS THE FIRST ECHO...OF A STORM THAT WILL CONSUME THE GALAXY!


THIS IS INDEED A CRITICAL MOMENT FOR THE JEDI AS THE DARK FORCES SEEM TO GAIN THE ASCENDANCY, EVERYWHERE AT ONCE!
SECRETED AMONGST THE JEDI SHIPS OVER DENEBA, A TETAN CORSAIR RELEASES A BARRAGE OF LIFE-PODS.
THE PODS STRIKE THE PLANET'S SURFACE WITH THE FORCE OF METEORS--
--AND OPEN TO REVEAL AN ARMY OF FIENDISHLY CONSTRUCTED WAR DROIDS!

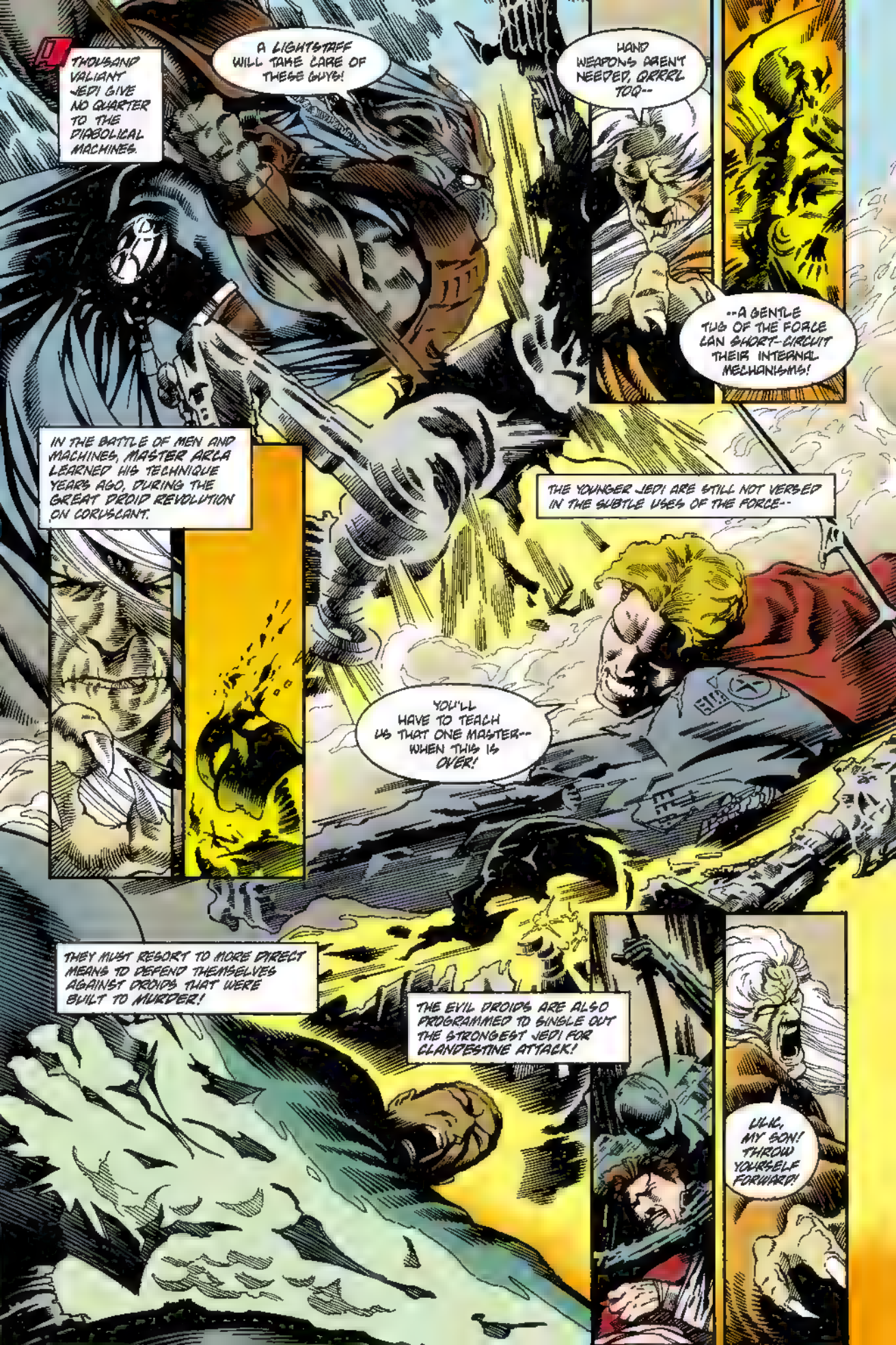
5
SIMULTANEOUSLY, AMIDST THE ASSEMBLAGE, MODIFIED SERVANT DROIDS UNVEIL WEAPONS AND TURN ON THEIR JEDI MASTERS!
I THOUGHT THERE WAS SOMETHIN' WRONG WITH THESE DROIDS!

ALMOST IMMEDIATELY, NOMI SUNRIDER'S CHILD, VIMA, IS SCOOPED UP--
MAMAAAAA!

THEN BEFORE NOMI CAN REACT, THE KIDNAPPER IS BROUGHT TO JUSTICE!


THANK YOU! WHO ARE YOU?

SYLVAR... APPRENTICE OF VODO BAAS.
AND YOU MUST BE NOMI SUNRIDER... I'VE HEARD OF YOU.


A THOUSAND VALIANT JEDI GIVE NO QUARTER TO THE DIABOLICAL MACHINES.
A LIGHTSTAFF WILL TAKE CARE OF THESE GUYS!
HAND WEAPONS AREN'T NEEDED, QRRRL TOO--
--A GENTLE TUG OF THE FORCE CAN SHORT-CIRCUIT THEIR INTERNAL MECHANISMS!
IN THE BATTLE OF MEN AND MACHINES, MASTER ARLA LEARNED HIS TECHNIQUE YEARS AGO, DURING THE GREAT DROID REVOLUTION ON CORUSCANT.
THE YOUNGER JEDI ARE STILL NOT VERSED IN THE SUBTLE USES OF THE FORCE--
YOU'LL HAVE TO TEACH US THAT ONE MASTER-- WHEN THIS IS OVER!
THEY MUST RESORT TO MORE DIRECT MEANS TO DEFEND THEMSELVES AGAINST DROIDS THAT WERE BUILT TO MURDER!
THE EVIL DROIDS ARE ALSO PROGRAMMED TO SINGLE OUT THE STRONGEST JEDI FOR CLANDESTINE ATTACK!
LLKK, MY SON! THROW YOURSELF FORWARD!

FRZZZ-SHOOM!
THANKS, MASTER. YOU SAVED MY LIFE.
JUST BE CAREFUL! A JEDI IS AS FALLIBLE AS ANY MAN...YOU MUST LEARN TO SENSE EVEN THE THREATS YOU CAN'T SEE!
A JEDI NEVER KNOWS WH—UNH...
UNNH!
MASTER ARCA!
MASTER, THE DROID WAS BEHIND YOU! I SHOULD HAVE SEEN IT!
JEDI BLASTER QUICKLY DISPATCHES THE ASSASSIN--
--BUT A JEDI MASTER IS FALLEN.
MASTER...MASTER. IT'S MY FAULT!
THE ENEMY HAS FOUND ME, LLIC...
BUT THE ENEMY KNOWS ONLY DARK-NESS.
I KNOW WHAT THE ENEMY DOES NOT..
I KNOW THE LIGHT.

IN DENEBA, AMIDST THE CARNAGE OF BATTLE, A GREAT JEDI MASTER PASSES TO THE NAMELESS REALM OF HIS ANCESTORS...
ACROSS THE GALAXY ON KORRIBAN, A BROKEN JEDI RECEIVES LIFE.

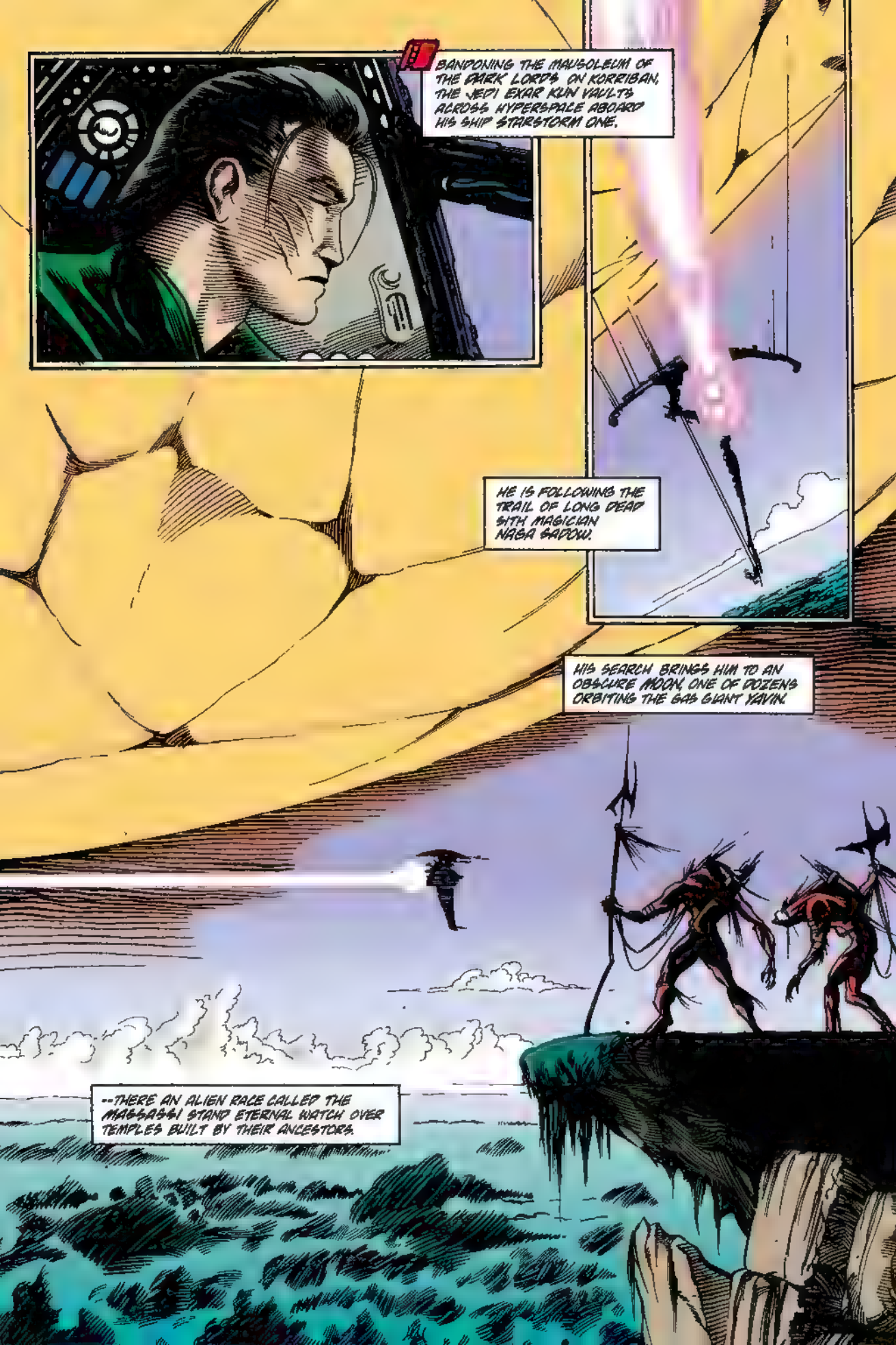
FREEDON NADD--HOW CAN THIS BE? THE DARK SIDE HAS HEALED ME, MADE ME WHOLE!
THE DARK SIDE HAS MADE YOU MORE THAN WHOLE--MORE THAN YOU YET KNOW. SUCH IS THE POWER OF THE FORCE.
YES--THE FORCE--BUT I WILL NEVER BELONG TO THE DARK SIDE!
ONCE YOU ACCEPT IT, THE DARK SIDE IS WITH YOU FOREVER...
--AS IT IS WITH THESE GREAT DARK LORDS OF OLD.
THIS IS THE LAST RESTING PLACE OF MANY OF THE ANCIENT LORDS OF THE SITH--THEIR BODIES PRESERVED BY THEIR OWN POWERS.

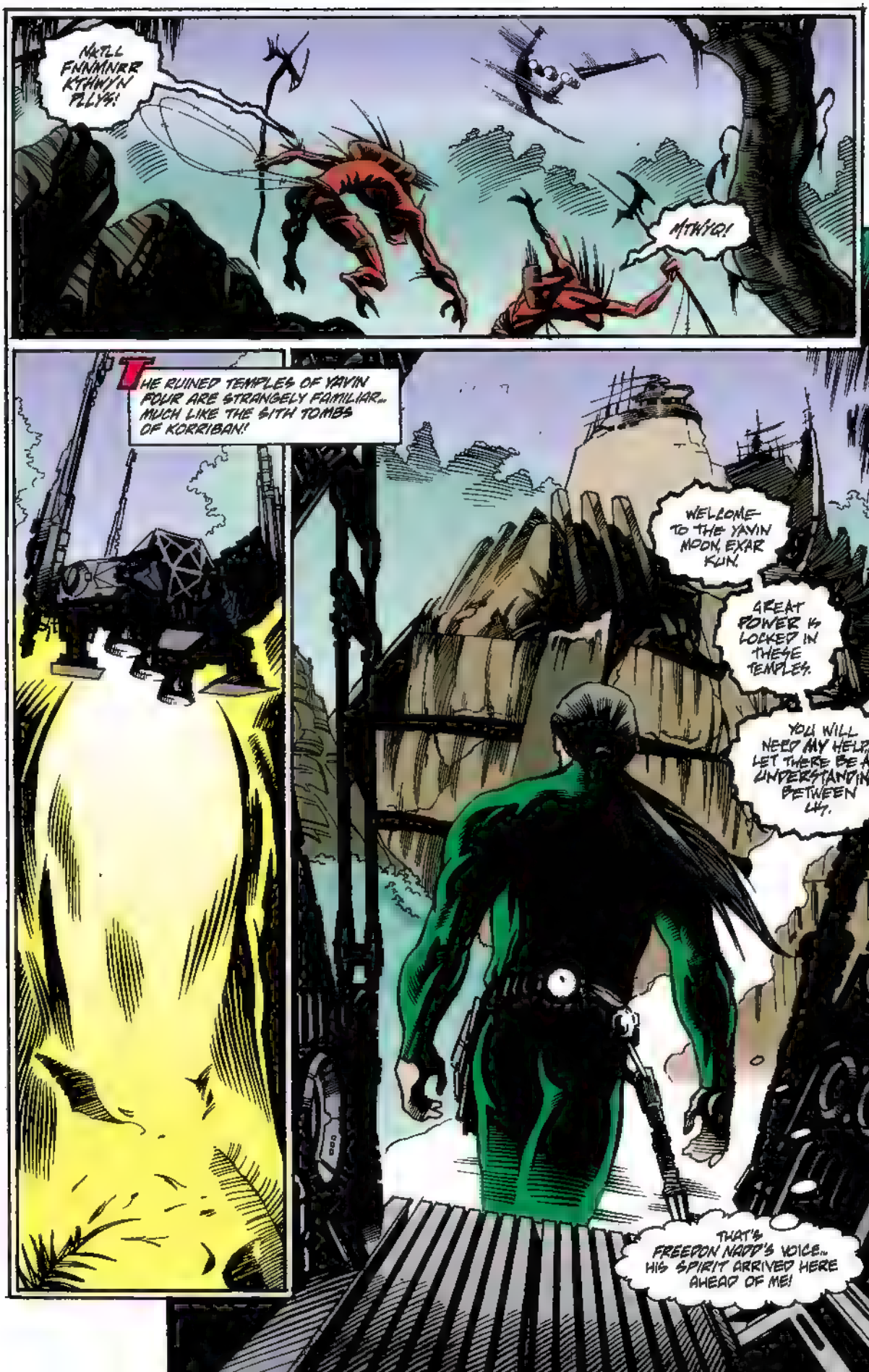
THIS IS ASTOUNDING. I CAN READ THESE SITH HIEROGLYPHS NOW!
YOU'LL UNDERSTAND MANY FORGOTTEN THINGS.
FOR INSTANCE, IT IS SAID THAT MANY CENTURIES AGO A GREAT SITH MAGICIAN NAMED NAGA SADOW LEARNED HOW TO GIVE FLESH TO DEPARTED SPIRITS...
HE QUARRELED WITH THE REIGNING DARK LORD... HE WAS SENTENCED TO DIE.
HE AND HIS MANY FOLLOWERS TRIED TO HIDE ON THE FOURTH MOON OF YAVIN...
SADOW IS GONE AND HIS FOLLOWERS HAVE DEVOLVED TO PRIMITIVES... BUT HIS POWER AND ALL THE ARTIFACTS OF HIS ALCHEMY REMAIN THERE, UNDISTURBED.
I WANT YOU TO GO TO YAVIN FOUR... THERE YOU WILL COMPLETE YOUR RESEARCH BUT FIRST...
--THE SPIRITS OF THE ANCIENTS HAVE ASKED ME TO TEST YOUR COMMITMENT... TO THE DARK SIDE!
MY LIGHTSABER! GIVE ME BACK MY LIGHTSABER!

AS EXAR KUN STANDS DEFENSELESS, GUARDIAN CREATURES LEAP DOWN FROM THE TOMBS... THEY EXIST ONLY TO SERVE THEIR LONG-DEAD MASTER'S PURPOSE.
SHNRRRILLL!
KUN IS NOT PREPARED TO FACE FURTHER TESTS!
NADD! STOP THIS! HELP ME!
HELP YOURSELF! USE THE POWER YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN TODAY!
SSSHNRRRILL!
THE CREATURE'S TEETH AT HIS THROAT, KUN ATTEMPTS TO RETRIEVE HIS WEAPON WITH THE FORCE... BUT THE LIGHTSIDE IS MYSTERIOUSLY BLOCKED.
MASTER VOOD... FORGIVE ME. I MUST LIVE!
EXAR KUN HAS ONLY ONE OPTION.
HE'S TAKEN THAT OPTION BEFORE... AND EACH TIME HE HAS TAKEN IT MORE EASILY, WITH MORE CONFIDENCE...
HE TAKES IT NOW--

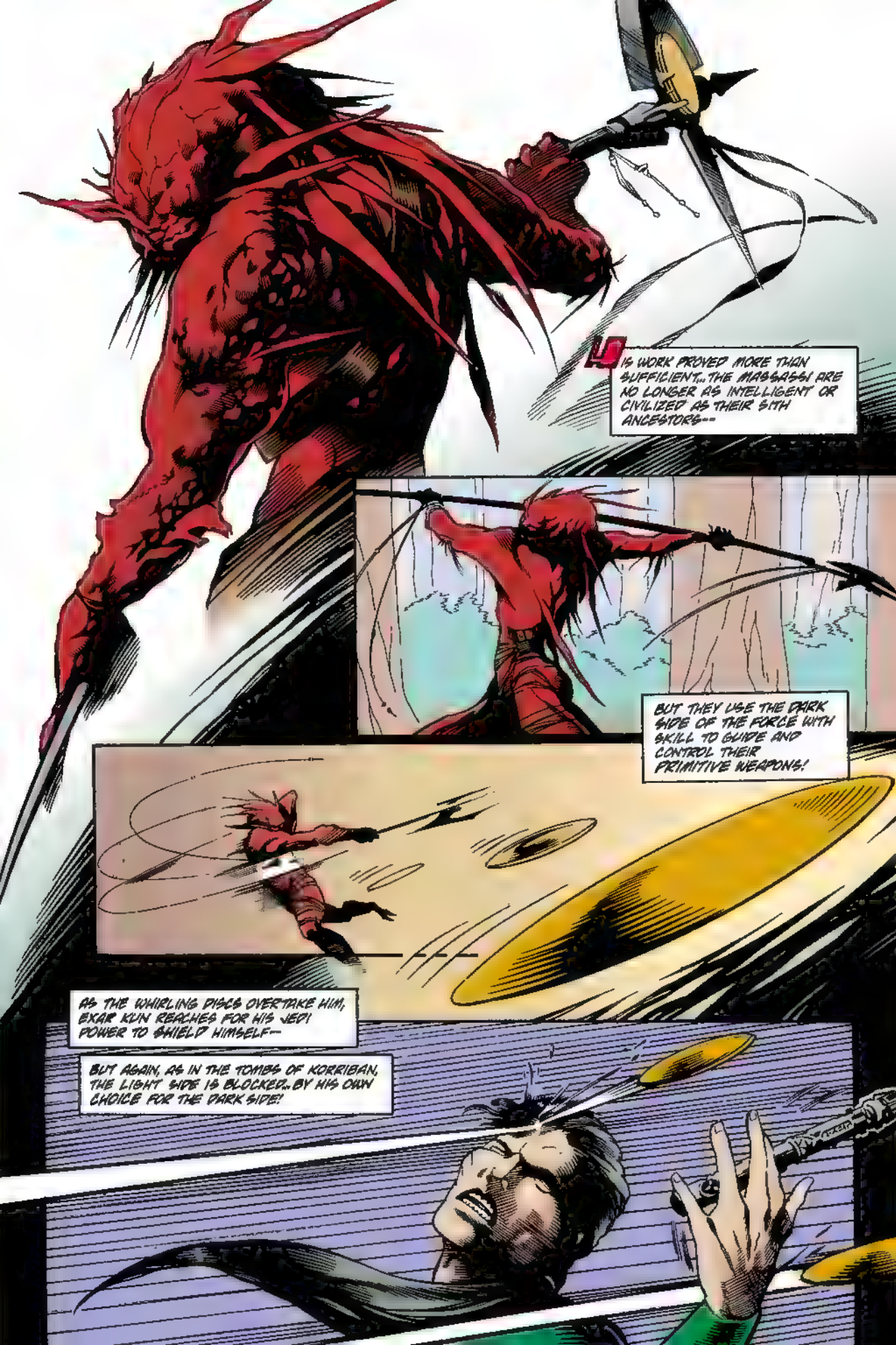
--THE POWER OF ANGER!
A RIVER OF RAGE FLOWS UNIMPEDED THROUGH EXAR KUN, AND HE EASILY DEMOLISHES THE TOMB GUARDIANS.
AS THE LAST GUARDIAN DIES, A SPECTRAL VOICE RESONATES OVER THE MUMMIFIED REMAINS OF THE ANCIENT DARK LORDS OF THE SITH...
HE IS READY, NADD.
THEY APPROVE. MAKE YOUR SHIP READY.
YES. I AM GOING TO YAVIN FOUR.
BUT UNLIKE YOU, I WILL NEVER BE SEDUCED BY THE DARK SIDE.
OH, BUT YOU ALREADY HAVE... YOU ALREADY HAVE!

ENEBA. A BATTLE IS OVER.
THIS DROID WAS BUILT IN THE TETAN SYSTEM!
THE KRATH PLANNED THIS ATTACK!
YOUR MASTER IS GONE...WHAT WILL YOU DO NOW, ULIC?
NOMI... I WILL DO WHAT I SAID I WOULD DO.
I WILL DESTROY THE KRATH FROM WITHIN.
BUT ULIC, MY OWN MASTER THON TOLD ME THAT A JEDI WHO TAKES UP THE PATH OF THE DARK SIDE IS NO LONGER A JEDI...
...HE WHO LEARNS THE DARK WAY WILL BECOME INFECTED WITH DARKNESS.
...HIS JUDGMENT WILL BECOME CLOUDED AND HE WILL FORGET THE GOOD THINGS HE LEARNED.
...IF A JEDI PERSISTS IN THIS ATTEMPT TO BRIDGE THE TWO DIVERGENT ROADS, HE WILL BE TORN APART IN HIS VERY BEING.
...ULIC, YOU ARE A GREAT JEDI. I BELIEVE YOU WILL CHOOSE THE RIGHT COURSE. I KNOW YOU WILL.
HOW CAN YOU KNOW WHAT I'M FEELING?
ARCA SAVED MY LIFE...AND I LET HIM DIE!
IF I HAD BEEN A TRUE JEDI, ARCA WOULD STILL BE ALIVE!
PLEASE...DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF THE DARK SIDE...
AT ALL COSTS, DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF THE DARK SIDE!
DESPITE THE WISE WARNINGS OF NOMI SUNRIDER, ULIC QEL-DROMA IS DETERMINED TO SEEK OUT THE MURDEROUS HEART OF EVIL... AND BRING IT TO JUDGMENT!
I WILL DO THIS FOR MASTER ARCA... FOR ALL JEDI KNIGHTS...AND AND FOR THE GOOD OF THE REPUBLIC!
ULIC QEL-DROMA WILL CONQUER THE DARK SIDE OF THE FORCE!

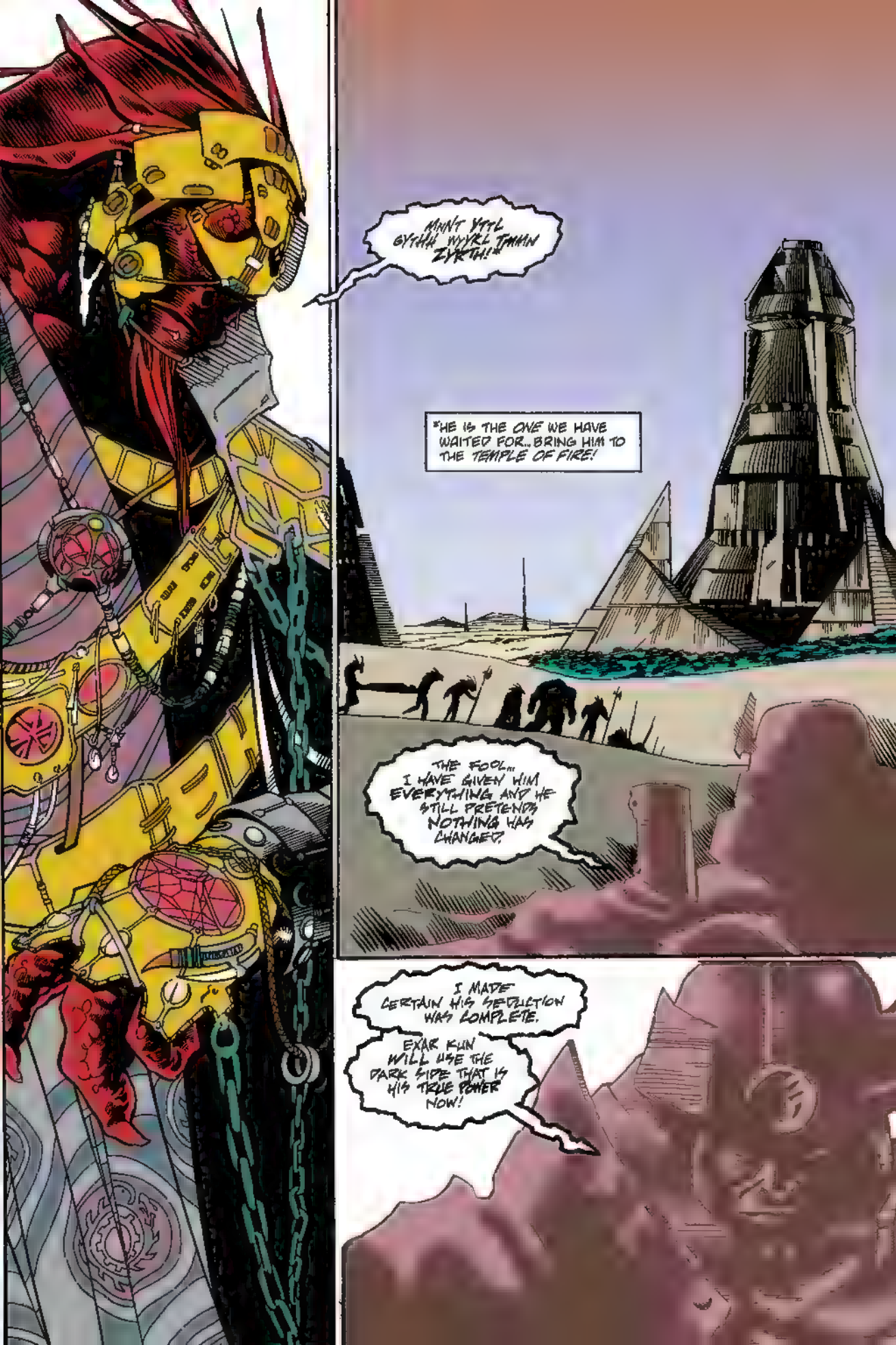

BANDONING THE MAUSOLEUM OF THE DARK LORDS ON KORRIBAN, THE JEDI EXAR KUN VAULTS ACROSS HYPERSPACE ABOARD HIS SHIP STARSTORM ONE.
HE IS FOLLOWING THE TRAIL OF LONG DEAD SITH MAGICIAN NAGA SADOW.
HIS SEARCH BRINGS HIM TO AN OBSCURE MOON, ONE OF DOZENS ORBITING THE GAS GIANT YAVIN.
--THERE AN ALIEN RACE CALLED THE MASSASSI STAND ETERNAL WATCH OVER TEMPLES BUILT BY THEIR ANCESTORS.


NKTLL FNNMNRR KTHNYN PLLYS!
MTWYQ!
THE RUINED TEMPLES OF YAVIN FOUR ARE STRANGELY FAMILIAR... MUCH LIKE THE SITH TOMBS OF KORRIBAN!
WELCOME TO THE YAVIN MOON, EXAR KUN.
GREAT POWER IS LOCKED IN THESE TEMPLES.
YOU WILL NEED MY HELP... LET THERE BE AN UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN US.
THAT'S FREEDON NADD'S VOICE... HIS SPIRIT ARRIVED HERE AHEAD OF ME!

I DON'T WANT YOUR HELP, OLD DARK SIDE GHOST!
EXAR KUN, BEWARE... THE MASSASSI WHO PROTECT THESE TEMPLES ARE MUTATED DESCENDENTS OF THE ANCIENT SITH.
THEY ARE THE OFFSPRING OF NAGA SADOW'S SITH ALCHEMY...
HIS MAGIC HAS MADE THEM POWERFUL BEINGS FILLED WITH VIOLENCE.
THEY'RE WORTHY OF BEING MASTERED BY ONE SUCH AS YOU.
RETURN TO THE PALATIAL TOMB AREA BUILT FOR YOU, NADD--I WANT NOTHING MORE TO DO WITH YOU.
VERY WELL. SO BE IT.
NADD WASN'T LYING. I SENSE LIFE FORMS... MOVING TOWARDS ME.
THE DARK SIDE OF THE FORCE IS STRONG HERE.
KTHWYNN TGGGLRRR!
WYRLKGG!
THE PURPOSE OF NAGA SADOW'S ALCHEMY WAS TO CREATE A RACE OF WARRIORS TO FOREVER STAND GUARD OVER HIS LEGACY--


IS WORK PROVED MORE THAN SUFFICIENT... THE MASSASSI ARE NO LONGER AS INTELLIGENT OR CIVILIZED AS THEIR SITH ANCESTORS--
BUT THEY USE THE DARK SIDE OF THE FORCE WITH SKILL TO GUIDE AND CONTROL THEIR PRIMITIVE WEAPONS!
AS THE WHIRLING DISCS OVERTAKE HIM, EXAR KUN REACHES FOR HIS JEDI POWER TO SHIELD HIMSELF--
BUT AGAIN, AS IN THE TOMBS OF KORRIBAN, THE LIGHT SIDE IS BLOCKED.. BY HIS OWN CHOICE FOR THE DARK SIDE!

DOZENS OF MASSASSI SWARM OVER KUN'S SHIP, STARSTORM ONE, STRIPPING BRIGHT COMPONENTS TO USE AS BODILY DECORATIONS--
--AS A SECOND WAVE OF THE FEROCIOUS ALIENS EMERGES FROM THE THICK YAVIN FOREST!
YESTERDAY, ON KORRIBAN, HIS BODY BROKEN IN A HUNDRED PLACES, EXAR KUN SURRENDERED TO THE DARK SIDE OF THE FORCE SO THAT HE MIGHT LIVE.
NOW, ON YAVIN FOUR, HE IS LEARNING THE CONSEQUENCE OF HIS FATEFUL CHOICE!
THE DARK SIDE OF THE FORCE IS ALL HE HAS!
WYKLK THHNMRR TYSMYS!
ZYTHMNR!
THE MASSASSI WARRIORS KNEEL TO THEIR TEMPLE PRIEST ZYTHMNR, WHO HAS EMERGED FROM TWELVE YEARS OF SOLITUDE TO INSPECT THE INTRUDER.



MNNT YTTL GYTHH WYYRL TMMN ZYRTH!*

*HE IS THE *ONE* WE HAVE WAITED FOR... BRING HIM TO THE *TEMPLE OF FIRE!*

THE FOOL... I HAVE GIVEN HIM EVERYTHING AND HE STILL PRETENDS NOTHING HAS CHANGED.

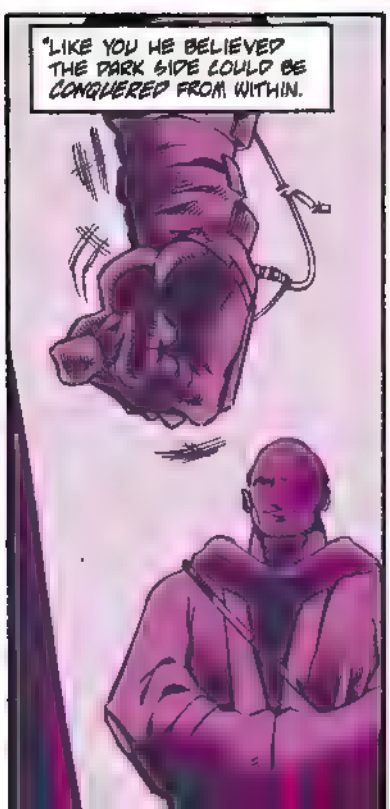
I MADE CERTAIN HIS SEDUCTION WAS COMPLETE.

EXAR KUN WILL USE THE DARK SIDE THAT IS HIS TRUE POWER NOW!

SSSS... IN THE GREAT JEDI LIBRARY.
HERE IT IS, QEL-DROMA--THE DEFINITIVE HISTORY OF THE EMPRESS TETA SYSTEM!
THANK YOU, MASTER OOD...
WHEN I JOURNEY TO TETA TO INFILTRATE THE KRATH, I WANT TO KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT THE PEOPLE I'LL BE DEALING WITH.
WELL, THIS BOOK SHOULD DO IT-- IT WAS WRITTEN BY THE OLD WARRIOR EMPRESS HERSELF, IN HER 175TH YEAR.
ULIC, MY MASTER STILL THINKS YOU ARE MAKING A TERRIBLE MISTAKE TRYING TO CONQUER THE DARK SIDE FROM WITHIN.
MASTER THON IS WRONG, NOMI. WHAT I AM DOING WILL BE DIFFICULT, YES...
BUT ANY YEDI WHO RUNS AWAY FROM AN OPPORTUNITY TO BATTLE THE DARK SIDE...IS A RANK COWARD!
STRONG WORDS, MY SON, FOR ONE WHO IS NEITHER OLD NOR WISE...
BEFORE YOU GO, I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET ONE OF THE OLDEST... AND WISEST.
HE HAS SOMETHING TO SHOW YOU--

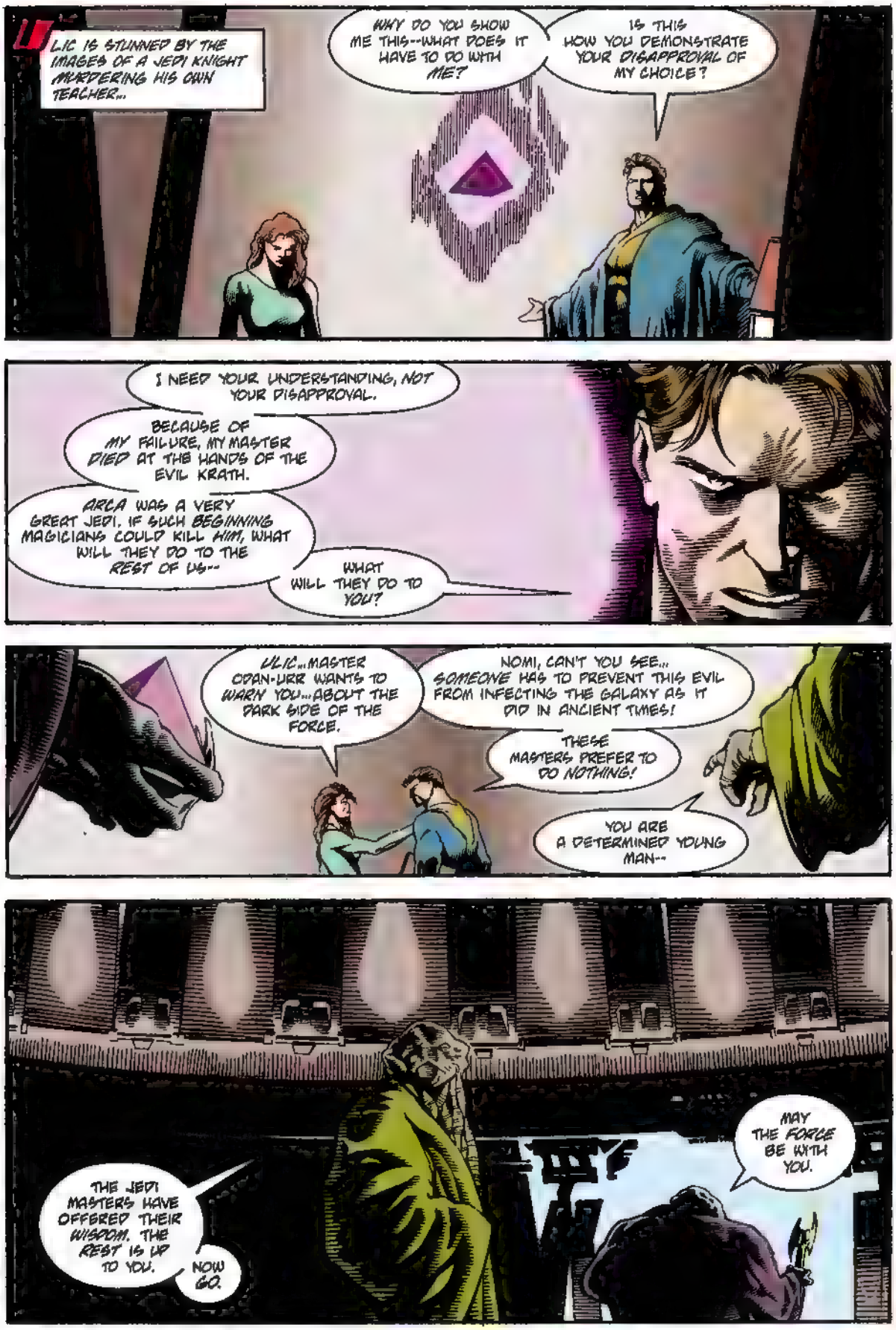
--HIS NAME IS MASTER ODAN-URR.
GREETINGS, JEDI. I AM THE KEEPER OF ANTIQUITIES.

THIS IS A VERY RARE SITH HOLOCRON.
IN IT WE FIND THE SITH'S OWN WORDS, THEIR TEACHINGS, AND THE HISTORIES OF THEIR DARK LORDS..
HERE, FOR INSTANCE, IS THE STORY OF A JEDI WHO CHOSE TO LEARN THE WAYS OF THE DARK SIDE--

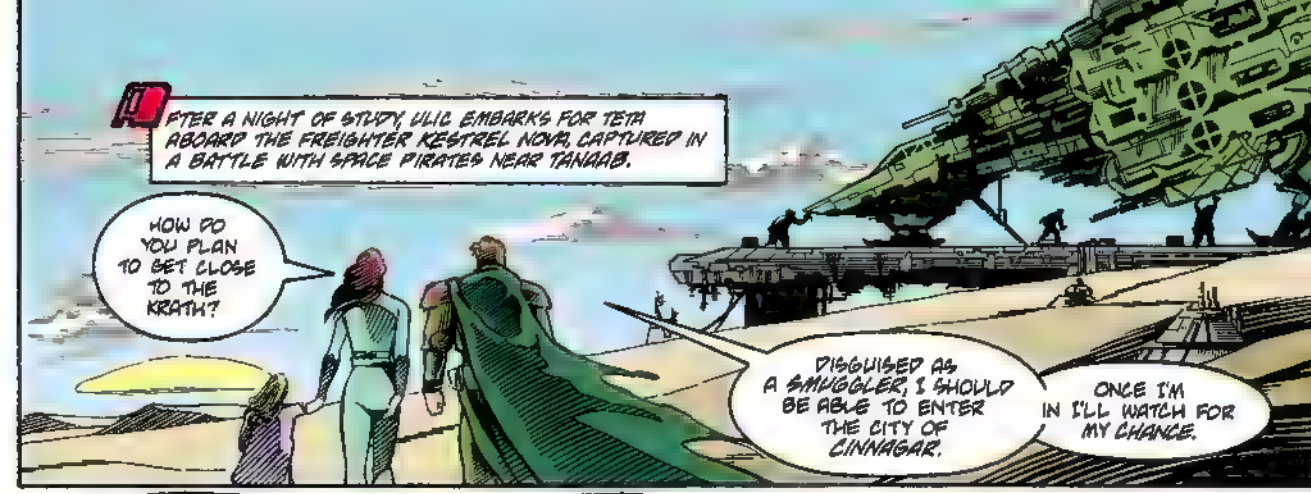

"LIKE YOU HE BELIEVED THE DARK SIDE COULD BE CONQUERED FROM WITHIN.

"SUCH WAS NOT TO BE. THE DARK SIDE SEDUCED HIM UTTERLY...AND ANGER BECAME HIS PATH.

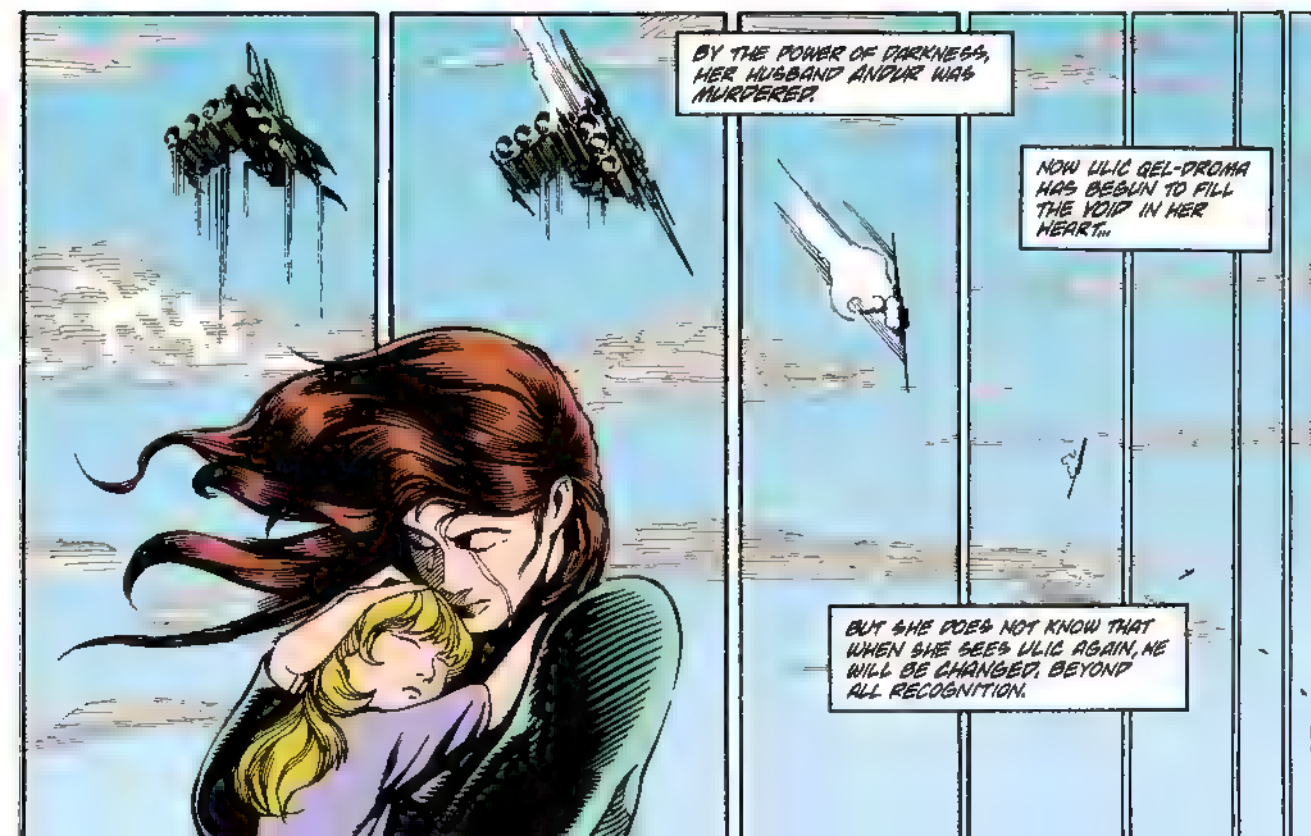
"IN THE END HE TURNED AGAINST HIS OWN MASTER."


ULIC IS STUNNED BY THE IMAGES OF A JEDI KNIGHT MURDERING HIS OWN TEACHER...
WHY DO YOU SHOW ME THIS--WHAT DOES IT HAVE TO DO WITH ME?
IS THIS HOW YOU DEMONSTRATE YOUR DISAPPROVAL OF MY CHOICE?
I NEED YOUR UNDERSTANDING, NOT YOUR DISAPPROVAL.
BECAUSE OF MY FAILURE, MY MASTER DIED AT THE HANDS OF THE EVIL KRATH.
ARCA WAS A VERY GREAT JEDI. IF SUCH BEGINNING MAGICIANS COULD KILL HIM, WHAT WILL THEY DO TO THE REST OF US--
WHAT WILL THEY DO TO YOU?
ULIC...MASTER ODAN-URR WANTS TO WARN YOU...ABOUT THE DARK SIDE OF THE FORCE.
NOMI, CAN'T YOU SEE... SOMEONE HAS TO PREVENT THIS EVIL FROM INFECTING THE GALAXY AS IT DID IN ANCIENT TIMES!
THESE MASTERS PREFER TO DO NOTHING!
YOU ARE A DETERMINED YOUNG MAN--
THE JEDI MASTERS HAVE OFFERED THEIR WISDOM. THE REST IS UP TO YOU.
NOW GO.
MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU.

OF COURSE THEY ARE WISE..BUT THEY ARE HELP-LESS.
IT'S BEEN SO LONG SINCE THE SITH WERE DEFEATED, THE JEDI HAVE GROWN COMPLACENT.
ULIC...
LOOK... THERE'S CAY.
ULIC...ARE YOU STILL PLANNING THAT CRAZY TRIP TO TETA?
WHILE NOMI SUNRIDER SEES TO HER CHILD, ULIC AND CAY WALK THE PARAPETS OF THE GREAT LIBRARY.
I WANT TO GO WITH YOU, ULIC...WE'RE BROTHERS... WE NEED TO FIGHT TOGETHER!
I GO ALONE, CAY.
I MUST PREVENT THE GREAT BLOODSHED THAT WAR WOULD BRING.
THE ONLY WAY IS TO LEARN THE KRATH'S SITH MAGIC AND SOME-HOW NEUTRALIZE IT.
ULIC...I HAVE A BAD FEELING...
I THINK YOU SHOULD CALL OFF THIS MISSION. WE'LL FIND ANOTHER WAY TO DEAL WITH THE KRATH.
HEY! DON'T BE STUPID, KID!
EVERYTHING WILL WORK OUT FINE!
WE'LL BE JOKING ABOUT THIS TOGETHER IN A FEW MONTHS!
HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT, AFTER WHAT THEY DID TO ARCA?
I'M LEAVING AT DAWN, CAY. DON'T TRY TO FOLLOW ME.
STANG, ULIC...I...I'LL NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN. I JUST KNOW IT.


AFTER A NIGHT OF STUDY, ULIC EMBARKS FOR TETH ABOARD THE FREIGHTER KESTREL NOVA, CAPTURED IN A BATTLE WITH SPACE PIRATES NEAR TANAAB.
HOW DO YOU PLAN TO GET CLOSE TO THE KRATH?
DISGUISED AS A SMUGGLER, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO ENTER THE CITY OF CINNAGAR.
ONCE I'M IN I'LL WATCH FOR MY CHANCE.

PLEASE LET ME HELP YOU IN SOME WAY... I CAN VISIT YOU IN CINNAGAR AND REPORT ON YOUR PROGRESS TO MASTER THON.
NO... I'LL TELL YOU THE SAME THING I TOLD MY BROTHER-- DON'T FOLLOW ME.
A GOODBYE KISS BECOMES SOMETHING MORE... AND NOMI REMEMBERS ANOTHER'S EMBRACE.


BY THE POWER OF DARKNESS, HER HUSBAND ANDUR WAS MURDERED.
NOW ULIC QEL-DROMA HAS BEGUN TO FILL THE VOID IN HER HEART...
BUT SHE DOES NOT KNOW THAT WHEN SHE SEES ULIC AGAIN, HE WILL BE CHANGED, BEYOND ALL RECOGNITION.

AVIN FOUR.
THE HEART OF THE GREAT SITH TEMPLE OF FIRE...
A JEDI KNIGHT IS THE HONORED GUEST AT A MASSASSI BLOOD SACRIFICE...
HIS NAME IS EXAR KUN... AND HE WAS TRAINED IN THE WAYS OF THE LIGHT. NOW HE WONDERS WHY HIS POWERS HAVE ABANDONED HIM.
FOR ALL HE CAN FIND IS A GREAT DARKNESS WELLING OUT OF THE SECRET PLACES OF HIS HEART--
TREMENDOUS ENERGIES ARE CONCENTRATED IN THESE HALF-RUINED TEMPLES.
AS MASSASSI PRIEST ZYTHMNR HOLDS UP AN ANCIENT SITH AMULET, THE ENERGIES INCREASE.
EXAR KUN'S INSATIABLE CURIOSITY HAS LED HIM TO THIS MOMENT...
IS DEATH TO BE THE END-POINT OF HIS RESEARCH?
NO... THESE BARBARIC RITUALS DO NOT IMPRESS HIM.
HE FEELS NO FEAR... NONE AT ALL...
NOT DEATH BUT SOME GREAT DESTINY IS UNFOLDING...
THIS IS THE REALM OF NAGA SADOW. KUN KNOWS THAT EVERYTHING HE SEEKS TO UNDERSTAND WILL NOW BE REVEALED IN THIS TEMPLE OF POWER.

THE MASSAGGI ELDERS FALL ENTRANCED, MUTTERING DARK CONJURATIONS UNDER ANCIENT BROKEN STATUES...

MMNYNNT GYTHNYMMN...

THEIR CHANTS ARE NEARDY TORRENTIAL POWER IS RELEASED!

A THROBBING BEAT FILLS THE TEMPLE...AND THE SMELL OF BURNING FLESH.

AND THEN... MORE POWER!

KUN SENSES A PRESENCE... SOMETHING ANCIENT AND EVIL HAS MARKED HIS COMING.

HE REMEMBERS THE WORDS SPOKEN BY MASTER VODO'S HOLOCRON--

"NAGA SADOW WAS A MAGICIAN OF PURE SITH BLOOD, WHO WAS IN REBELLION AGAINST THE SITH RULERS, THOSE FALLEN JEDI WHO WORE THE TITLE DARK LORDS OF THE SITH..."

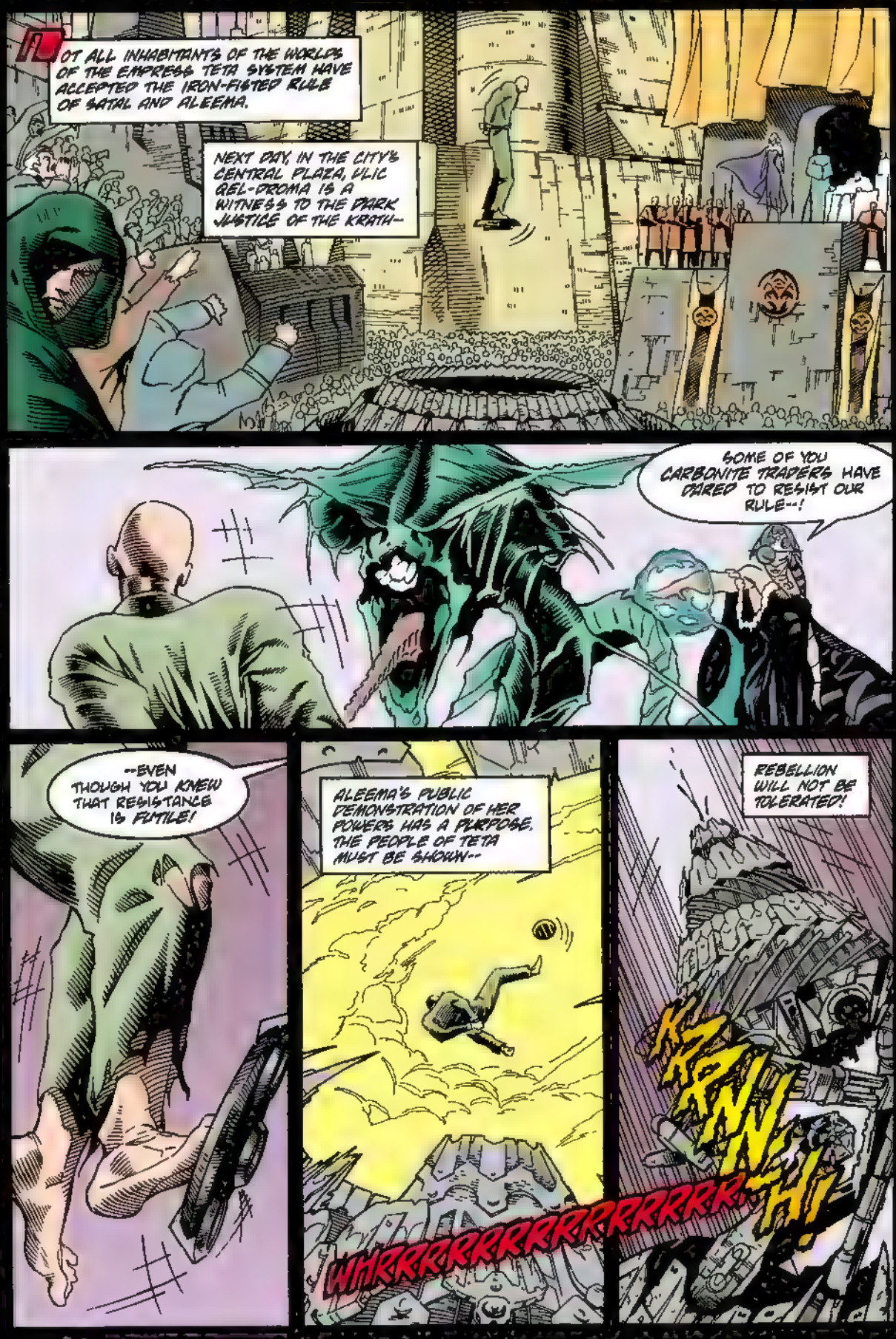
FREEDON NADD SAID THAT NAGA SADOW WAS SENTENCED TO DIE BY THE REIGNING DARK LORD..

THE MAGICIAN SADOW AND HIS FOLLOWERS HID ON THE FOURTH MOON OF YAVIN, WHERE HE PRACTICED HIS ALCHEMY UNDISTURBED.

THIS IS YAVIN FOUR. THIS IS THE REALM OF NAGA SADOW.

NOW A THING CREATED BY SADOW'S ALCHEMY HAS AWAKENED!

INNAGAR, RULING CITY OF THE EMPRESS TETA SYSTEM.
UNDER THE REIGN OF SATAL KETO AND ALEEMA, CINNAGAR HAS BECOME A WRETCHED HIVE OF PERSECUTION AND DREAD.
EVER SINCE THEY ATTACKED THE JEDI ASSEMBLY ON DENEBA, THE KRATH HAVE BECOME INCREASINGLY VIGILANT.
ULIC QEL-DROMA'S ARRIVAL IN CINNAGAR IS NOT AS SECRET AS HE HAD HOPED.
I TELL YOU HE IS A JEDI. I CAN SENSE HIS INTENTIONS. HE WANTS SOMETHING FROM US.
I'LL ISSUE AN ORDER--HE'LL BE DEAD IN AN HOUR, ALEEMA.
NO, SATAL... I FIND HIM INTERESTING. I THINK I CAN FIND A USE FOR HIM... I THINK HE CAN TEACH US THINGS.
TOMORROW IS OUR PUBLIC EXECUTION CEREMONY.
PERHAPS HE WILL MAKE HIS MOVE THEN.



NOT ALL INHABITANTS OF THE WORLDS OF THE EMPRESS TETA SYSTEM HAVE ACCEPTED THE IRON-FISTED RULE OF SATAL AND ALEEMA.

NEXT DAY, IN THE CITY'S CENTRAL PLAZA, ULIC QEL-DROMA IS A WITNESS TO THE DARK JUSTICE OF THE KRATH--

SOME OF YOU CARBONITE TRADERS HAVE DARED TO RESIST OUR RULE--!

--EVEN THOUGH YOU KNEW THAT RESISTANCE IS FUTILE!

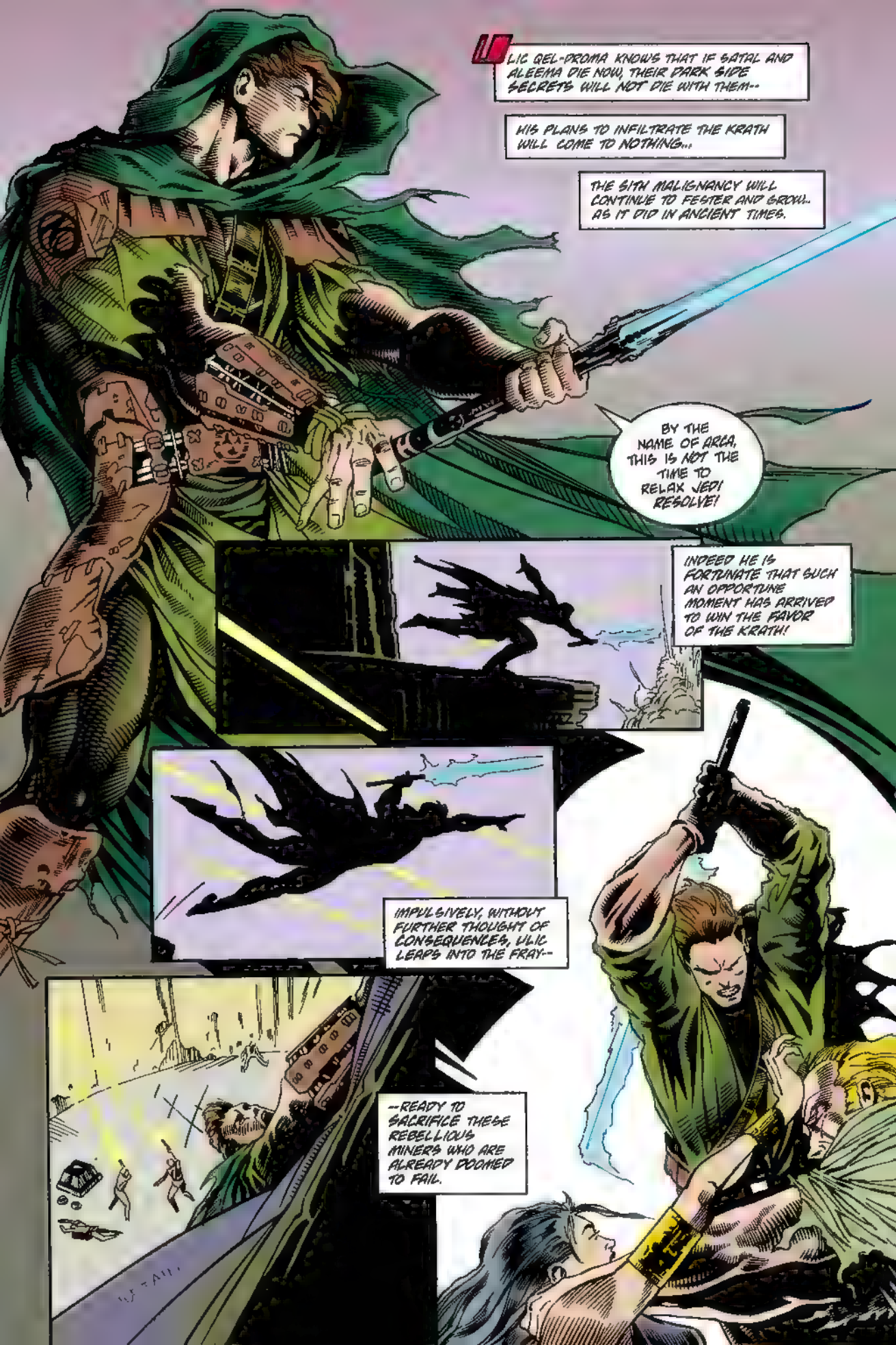
ALEEMA'S PUBLIC DEMONSTRATION OF HER POWERS HAS A PURPOSE. THE PEOPLE OF TETA MUST BE SHOWN--

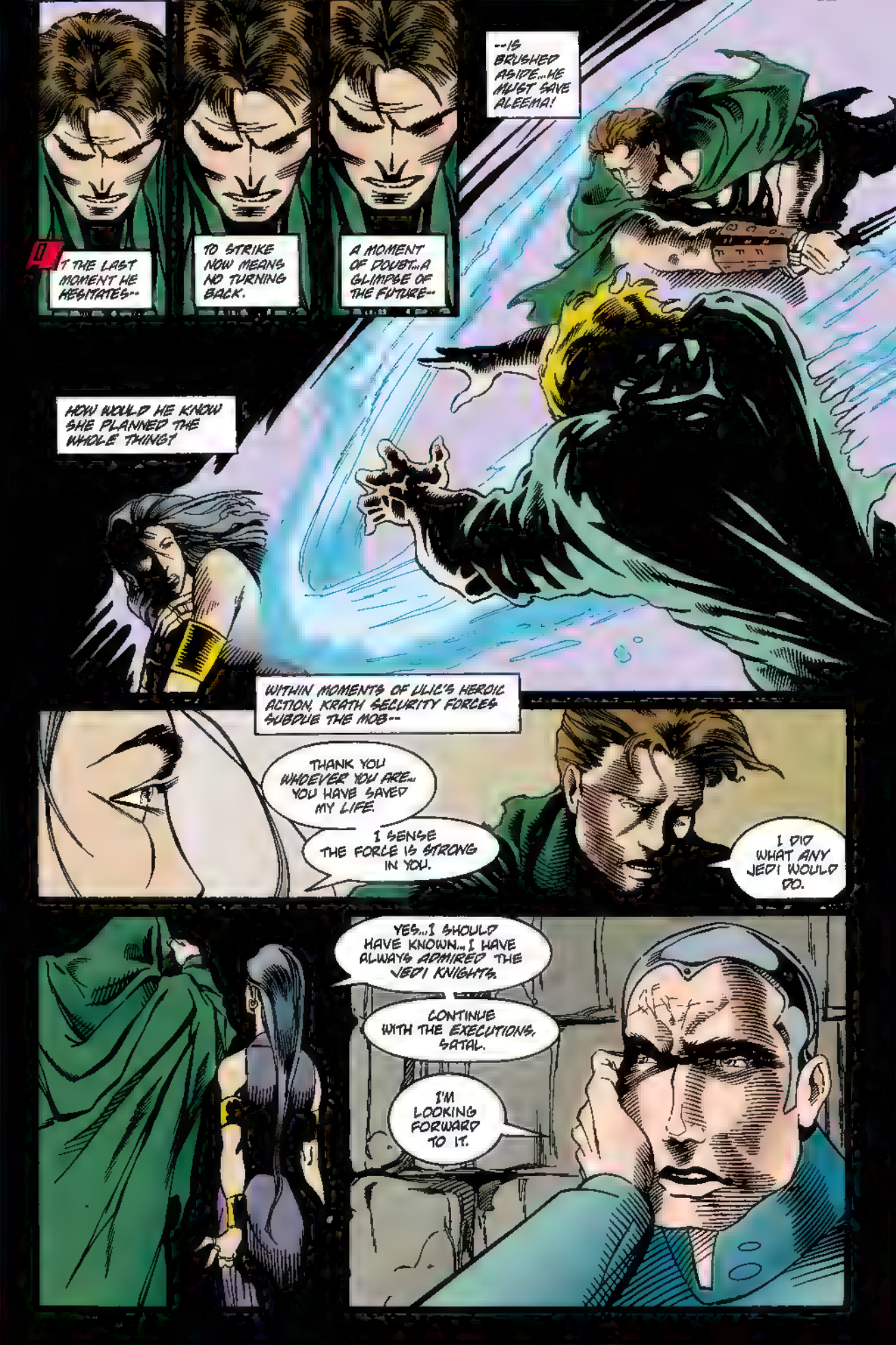
WHRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRR

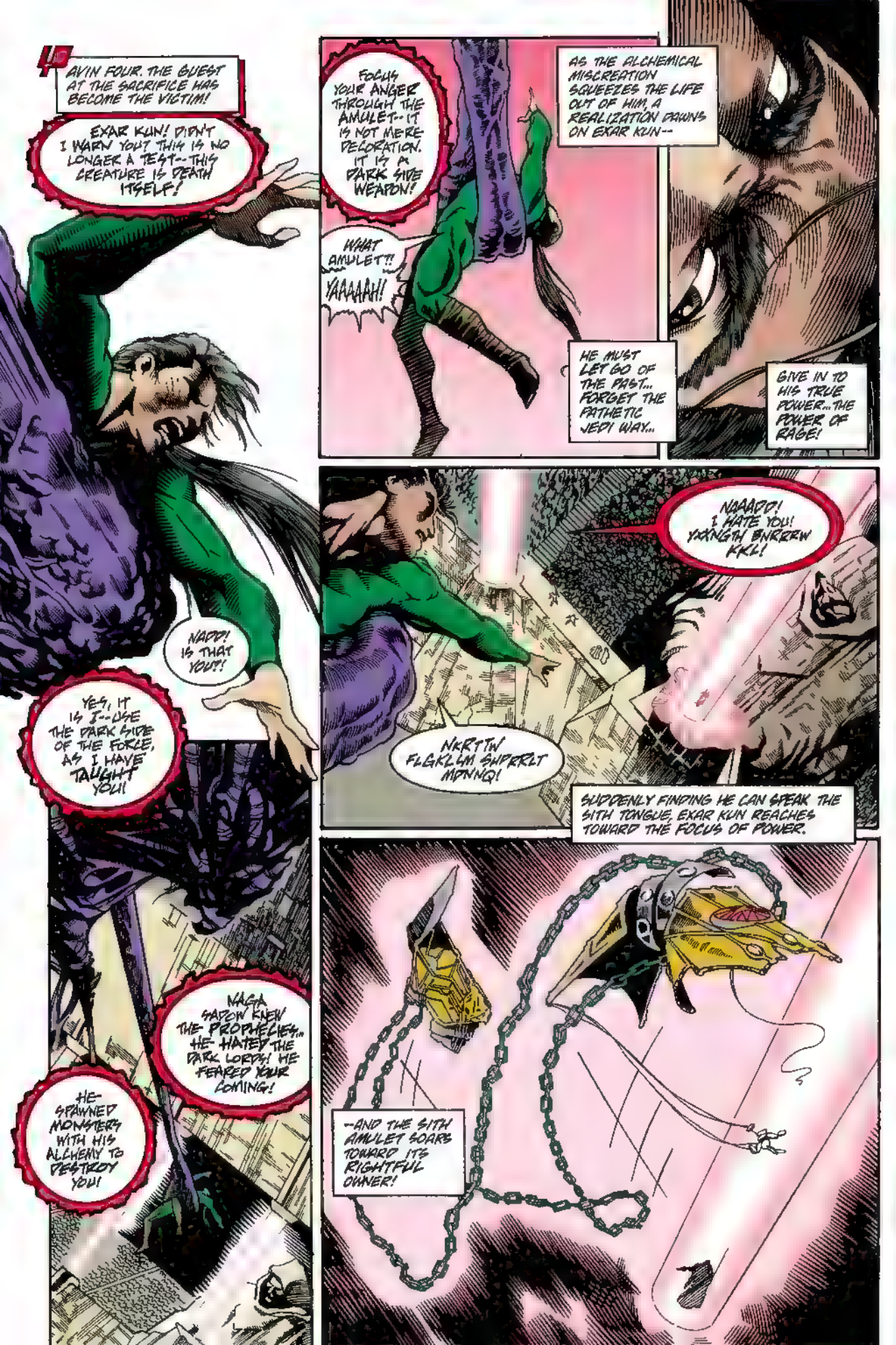
REBELLION WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!

KRRNNH!

AND NOW YOU, FARNG...YOU'RE A SMART TRADER. DO YOU WANT ONE LAST CHANCE TO OBEY THE KRATH?
OTHERS MAY CAPITULATE TO YOUR EVIL. I PREFER TO DIE!
VERY WELL THEN. I SUBMIT TO YOUR WISHES--
YOU MAY DIE!
NO VILE SORCERESS-- IT IS YOU WHO WILL DIE!
THE KNIFE, HURLED BOLDLY, SIGNALS THE ATTACK--AND TRAINED ASSASSINS LEAP FROM THE CROWD.
THE CARBONITE MINERS DECLARE THEIR FREEDOM! DEATH TO DARK SIDE TYRANTS!
THE CITIZEN REVOLT IS MET HEAD-ON BY ALEEMA AND HER TETAN WARRIORS--
BUT THE ODDS DON'T LOOK GOOD FOR THE KRATH RULERS!


LIC QEL-DROMA KNOWS THAT IF SATAL AND ALEEMA DIE NOW, THEIR DARK SIDE SECRETS WILL NOT DIE WITH THEM--
HIS PLANS TO INFILTRATE THE KRATH WILL COME TO NOTHING...
THE SITH MALIGNANCY WILL CONTINUE TO FESTER AND GROW... AS IT DID IN ANCIENT TIMES.
BY THE NAME OF ARCA, THIS IS NOT THE TIME TO RELAX JEDI! RESOLVE!
INDEED HE IS FORTUNATE THAT SUCH AN OPPORTUNE MOMENT HAS ARRIVED TO WIN THE FAVOR OF THE KRATH!
IMPULSIVELY, WITHOUT FURTHER THOUGHT OF CONSEQUENCES, ULIC LEAPS INTO THE FRAY--
--READY TO SACRIFICE THESE REBELLIOUS MINERS WHO ARE ALREADY DOOMED TO FAIL.


AT THE LAST MOMENT HE HESITATES--
TO STRIKE NOW MEANS NO TURNING BACK.
A MOMENT OF DOUBT...A GLIMPSE OF THE FUTURE--
--IS BRUSHED ASIDE...HE MUST SAVE ALEEMA!
HOW WOULD HE KNOW SHE PLANNED THE WHOLE THING?
WITHIN MOMENTS OF ULIC'S HEROIC ACTION, KRATH SECURITY FORCES SUBDUE THE MOB--
THANK YOU WHOEVER YOU ARE... YOU HAVE SAVED MY LIFE.
I SENSE THE FORCE IS STRONG IN YOU.
I DID WHAT ANY JEDI WOULD DO.
YES...I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN...I HAVE ALWAYS ADMIRED THE JEDI KNIGHTS.
CONTINUE WITH THE EXECUTIONS, SATAL.
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT.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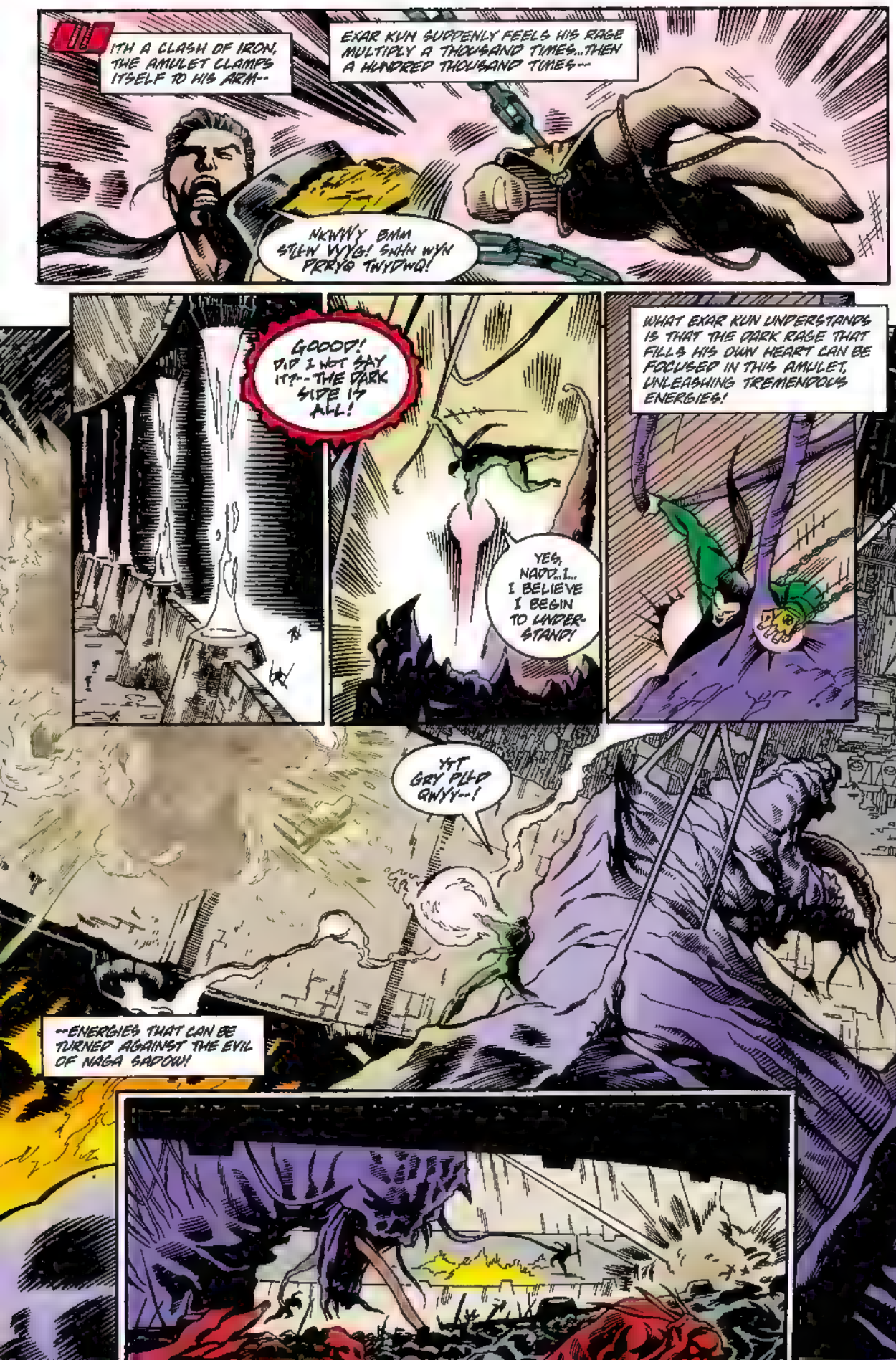
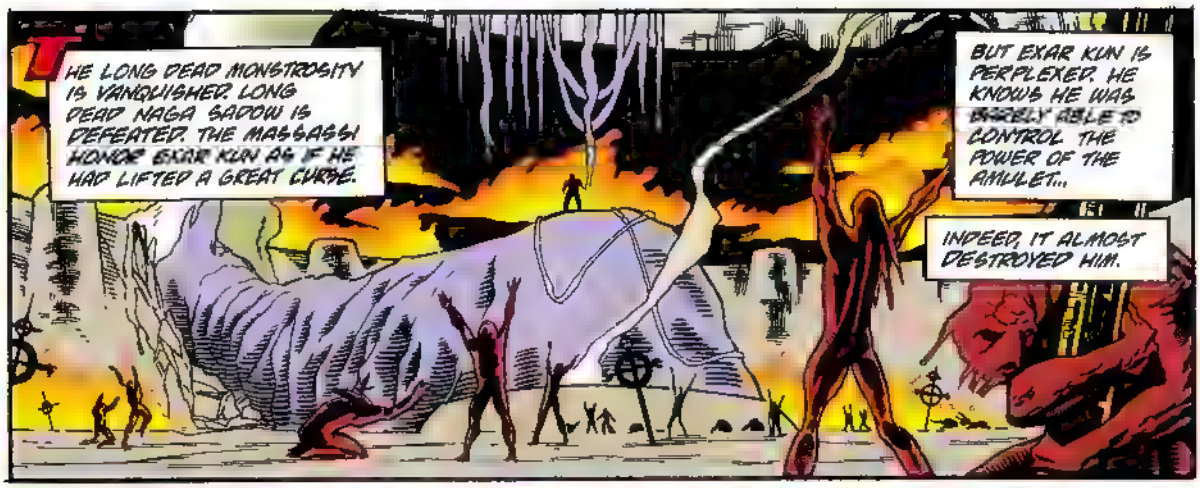
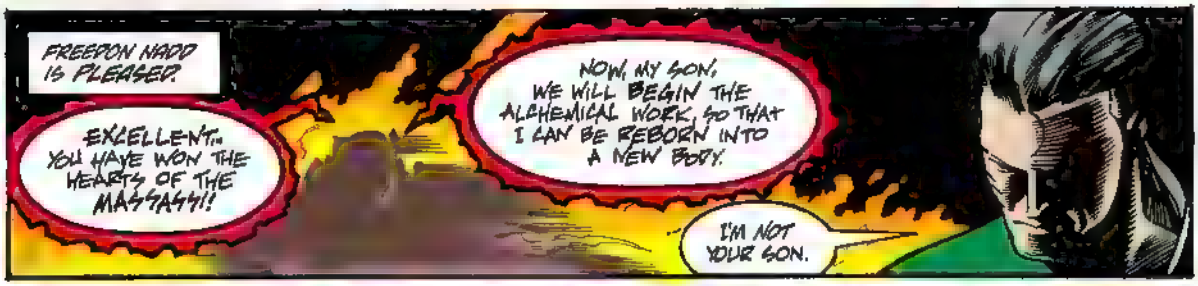
AVIN FOUR. THE GUEST AT THE SACRIFICE HAS BECOME THE VICTIM!
EXAR KUN! DIDN'T I WARN YOU? THIS IS NO LONGER A TEST--THIS CREATURE IS DEATH ITSELF!
NADD! IS THAT YOU?!
YES, IT IS I--USE THE DARK SIDE OF THE FORCE, AS I HAVE TAUGHT YOU!
HE SPAWNED MONSTERS WITH HIS ALCHEMY TO DESTROY YOU!
NAGA SADOW KNEW THE PROPHECIES... HE HATED THE DARK LORDS! HE FEARED YOUR COMING!
FOCUS YOUR ANGER THROUGH THE AMULET--IT IS NOT MERE DECORATION. IT IS A DARK SIDE WEAPON!
WHAT AMULET?!
YAAAAAH!
AS THE ALCHEMICAL MISCREATION SQUEEZES THE LIFE OUT OF HIM, A REALIZATION DAWNS ON EXAR KUN--
HE MUST LET GO OF THE PAST... FORGET THE PATHETIC JEDI WAY...
GIVE IN TO HIS TRUE POWER...THE POWER OF RAGE!
NOOOOO! I HATE YOU! YXXNGTH BNRRRW KKL!
NKRTTW FLGKLLM SHPRRLT MPNNQ!
SUDDENLY FINDING HE CAN SPEAK THE SITH TONGUE, EXAR KUN REACHES TOWARD THE FOCUS OF POWER.
--AND THE SITH AMULET SOARS TOWARD ITS RIGHTFUL OWNER!


ITH A CLASH OF IRON, THE AMULET CLAMPS ITSELF TO HIS ARM--
EXAR KUN SUDDENLY FEELS HIS RAGE MULTIPLY A THOUSAND TIMES..THEN A HUNDRED THOUSAND TIMES--
NKWWY BMM STLW VYG! SHHN WYN PRRYG TWYDWQ!
GOOOD! DID I NOT SAY IT?--THE DARK SIDE IS ALL!
YES, NADD..I... I BELIEVE I BEGIN TO UNDER-STAND!
WHAT EXAR KUN UNDERSTANDS IS THAT THE DARK RAGE THAT FILLS HIS OWN HEART CAN BE FOCUSED IN THIS AMULET, UNLEASHING TREMENDOUS ENERGIES!
YT GRY PLLD QWYY--!
--ENERGIES THAT CAN BE TURNED AGAINST THE EVIL OF NAGA SADOW!

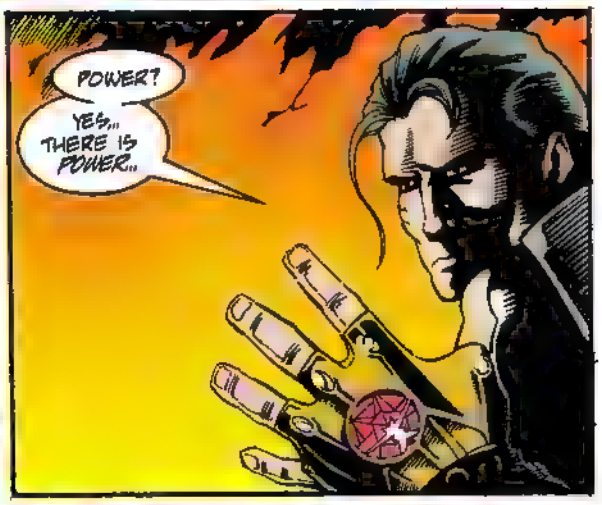
THE DARK ENERGY KEEPS INCREASING! I CAN'T CONTROL IT!
I--I CAN JUST BARELY DIRECT IT!
MY HAND... THE FLESH IS BURNED!
BUT I FEEL NO PAIN!
WITH EVERY PULSE OF HIS ANGER, THE AMULET DOUBLES THE POWER OF ITS DISCHARGE!
--AND EACH BLAST CONSUMES ANOTHER OF NAGA SADOW'S HORRORS!


THE LONG DEAD MONSTROSITY IS VANQUISHED! LONG DEAD NAGA SADOW IS DEFEATED. THE MASSASSI HONOR EXAR KUN AS IF HE HAD LIFTED A GREAT CURSE.
BUT EXAR KUN IS PERPLEXED. HE KNOWS HE WAS BARELY ABLE TO CONTROL THE POWER OF THE AMULET...
INDEED, IT ALMOST DESTROYED HIM.


FREEDON NADD IS PLEASED!
EXCELLENT... YOU HAVE WON THE HEARTS OF THE MASSASSI!
NOW, MY SON, WE WILL BEGIN THE ALCHEMICAL WORK, SO THAT I CAN BE REBORN INTO A NEW BODY.
I'M NOT YOUR SON.

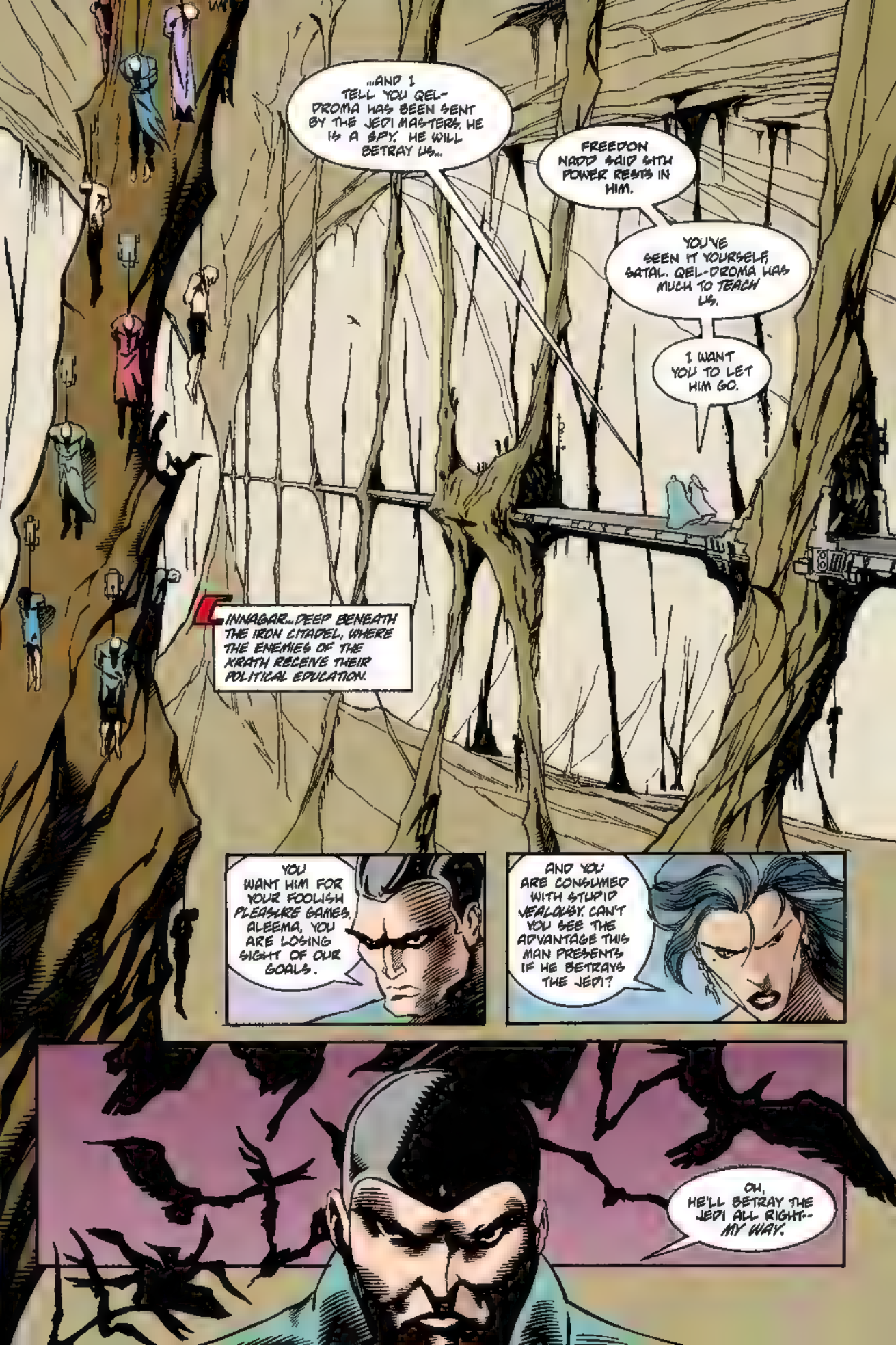
WE MUST FIND THE OLD SITH MAGICIAN'S LABORATORY... AND REVIVE HIS LOST ARTS TOGETHER!
FREEDON NADD, I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOU GUIDING ME, TESTING ME...

NONSENSE! LET'S GET TO WORK... I AM HUNGRY TO REACQUIRE FLESH AND LIFE AND POWER!


POWER?
YES... THERE IS POWER...

FOLLOWING THE IMPULSE OF ANGER, EXAR KUN TURNS THE AMULET AGAINST HIS MENTOR--
NYYAARRR--
AS HE DIES A SECOND DEATH, NADD REACHES OUT IN DESPERATION TO OTHERS HE HAS LED DOWN THE DARK PATH--

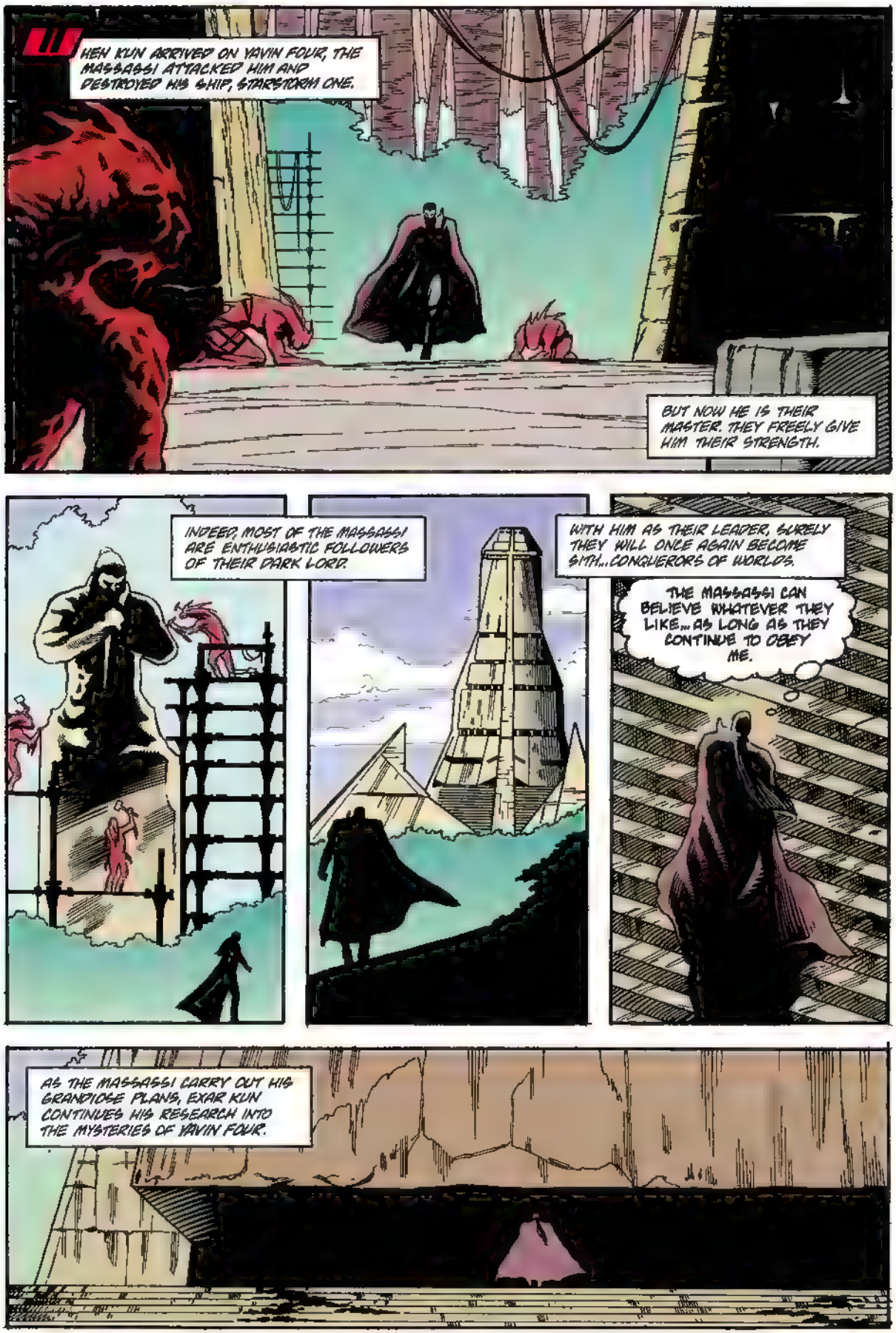
INNAGAR... IN THE CITADEL OF THE KRATH.
YOU HAVE DRUGGED HIM?... SO WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH THIS JEDI, ALEEMA?
DO YOU INTEND TO KEEP HIM AS A PET?
HIS NAME IS ULIC QEL-DROMA.
HE CLAIMS TO HAVE FALLEN FROM THE JEDI WAY-- HE WILL BE A GREAT HELP TO US, SATAL.
I THINK HE'S A SPY WHO COULD HURT US, COUSIN--
FREEDON NADD!
MY CHILDREN-- I COME TO WARN YOU! IT IS NOT QEL-DROMA YOU MUST FEAR!
BEWARE OF EXAR KUN. HE HAS ACQUIRED GREAT SITH POWERS AND HE HAS AMBITION WITHOUT LIMIT--
I NOW DECLARE IT... EXAR KUN IS A PRETENDER TO THE SITH LEGACY...
...THE REAL POWER OF THE SITH RESTS WITH YOU... THREE...!
ON YAVIN FOUR NADD'S SPIRIT SURRENDERS TO UTTER ANNIHILATION...
...AND EXAR KUN PONDERS THE MYSTERIES OF THE DARK SIDE OF THE FORCE!

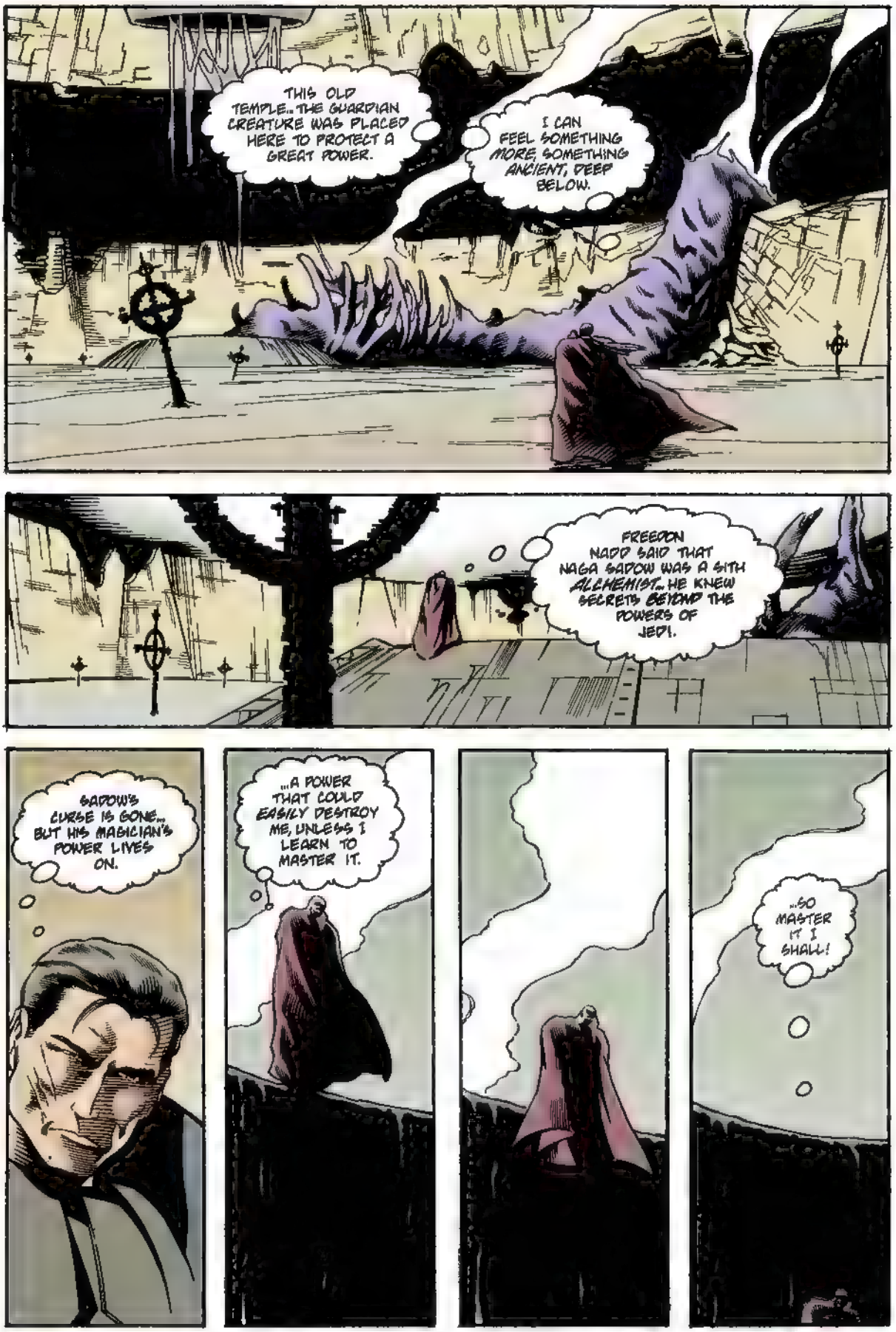

...AND I TELL YOU QEL-DROMA HAS BEEN SENT BY THE JEDI MASTERS. HE IS A SPY. HE WILL Bbetray US...
FREEDON NADD SAID SITH POWER RESTS IN HIM.
YOU'VE SEEN IT YOURSELF, SATAL. QEL-DROMA HAS MUCH TO TEACH US.
I WANT YOU TO LET HIM GO.
INNAGAR...DEEP BENEATH THE IRON CITADEL, WHERE THE ENEMIES OF THE KRATH RECEIVE THEIR POLITICAL EDUCATION.
YOU WANT HIM FOR YOUR FOOLISH PLEASURE GAMES, ALEEMA. YOU ARE LOSING SIGHT OF OUR GOALS.
AND YOU ARE CONSUMED WITH STUPID JEALOUSY. CAN'T YOU SEE THE ADVANTAGE THIS MAN PRESENTS IF HE BETRAYS THE JEDI?
OH, HE'LL BETRAY THE JEDI ALL RIGHT-- MY WAY.

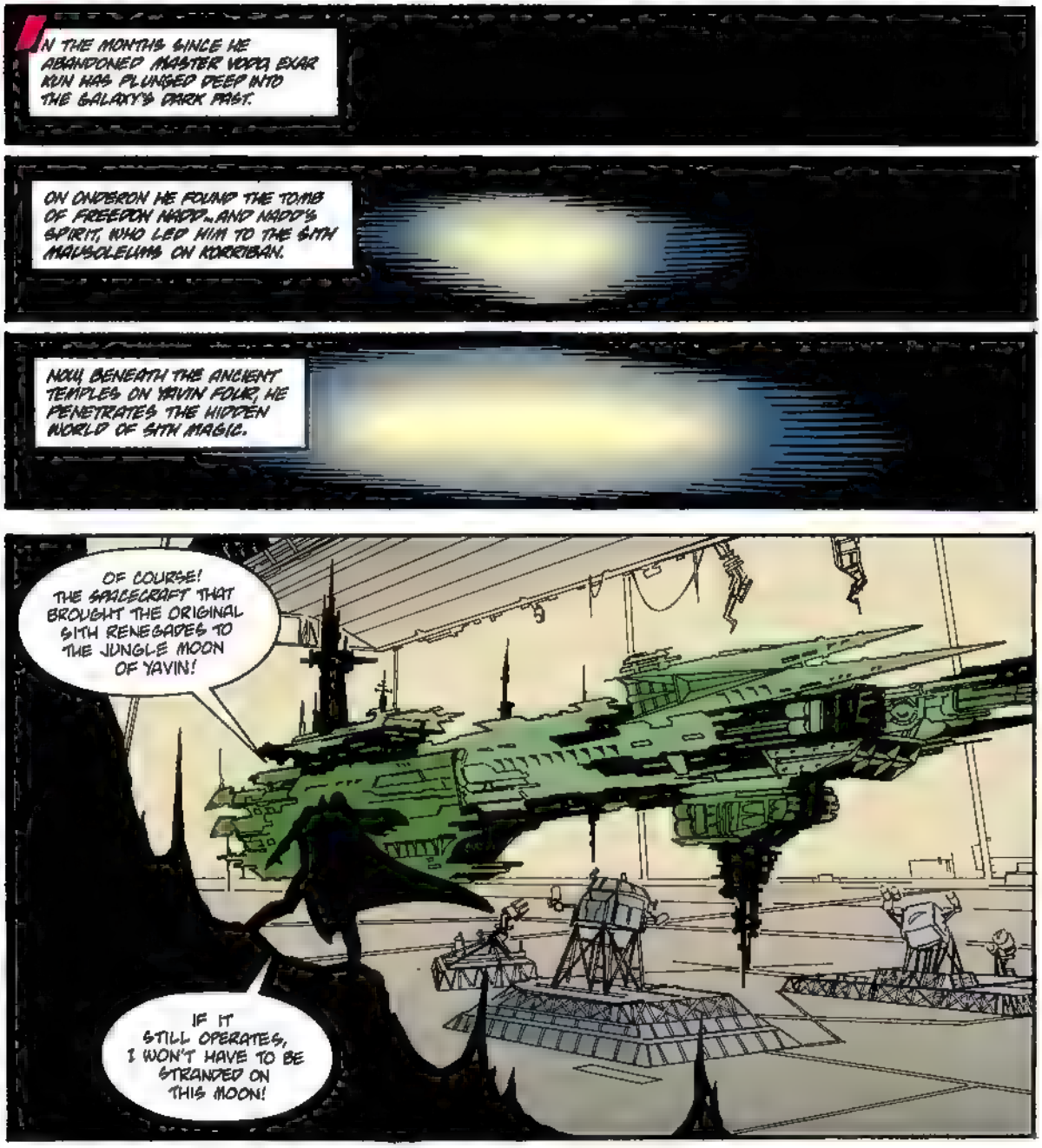
ULIC QEL-DROMA! I AM ONLY A HUMBLE TORTURE DROID... WHILE YOU ARE A GREAT JEDI KNIGHT!
MY MASTERS ARE PLEASED THAT YOU HAVE CHOSEN TO JOIN THE NOBLE KRATH--
BUT CLAIMS OF LOYALTY MUST BE TESTED--
--AND VERIFIED.
HNGGHH...!
WHAT DID YOU HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH BY COMING HERE? WAS IT YOUR INTENTION TO BETRAY US TO THE JEDI KNIGHTS?
I TOLD YOU... I... NO LONGER... SERVE... THE JEDI. I CAME TO... CINNAGAR TO... LEARN THE WAYS... OF THE DARK SIDE.
YES, MY COUSIN MENTIONED IT-- A FALLEN JEDI.
I DON'T HAPPEN TO BELIEVE YOU.
A SITH CURSE ON YOU, SATAL-- IF YOU KILL HIM, I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU.
OH, HE DOESN'T HAVE TO DIE--IF HIS JEDI POWER CAN NEUTRALIZE SITH POISON!

YRRGKKAAA!
SATAL'S ATTACK PULLS ULIC OUT OF HIS DELIRIUM...AND PROVOKES A MASSIVE IMPULSE OF FORCE ENERGY THAT BLASTS THE YOUNG JEDI FREE OF THE DROID'S EMBRACE--
BUT THE POISON ACTS QUICKLY!
THAT'S ENOUGH, SATAL! YOU'VE DONE ENOUGH.
HE IS POWERFUL... ISN'T HE?
YOU ALMOST KILLED HIM. BUT HE'S MINE NOW, TO DO WITH AS I PLEASE.
I WILL MAKE HIM ONE OF US. YOU'LL SEE--HE'LL BECOME A GREAT ALLY OF THE KRATH.
ALL RIGHT. HAVE IT YOUR WAY. FRANKLY, I DON'T REALLY CARE.
YES...I WILL FIND A WAY TO USE THIS ULIC QEL-DROMA...TO EXPAND OUR POWER ACROSS THE GALAXY!
NORGAR... HELP ME MOVE HIM TO MY CHAMBERS.
YES, MAJESTY.

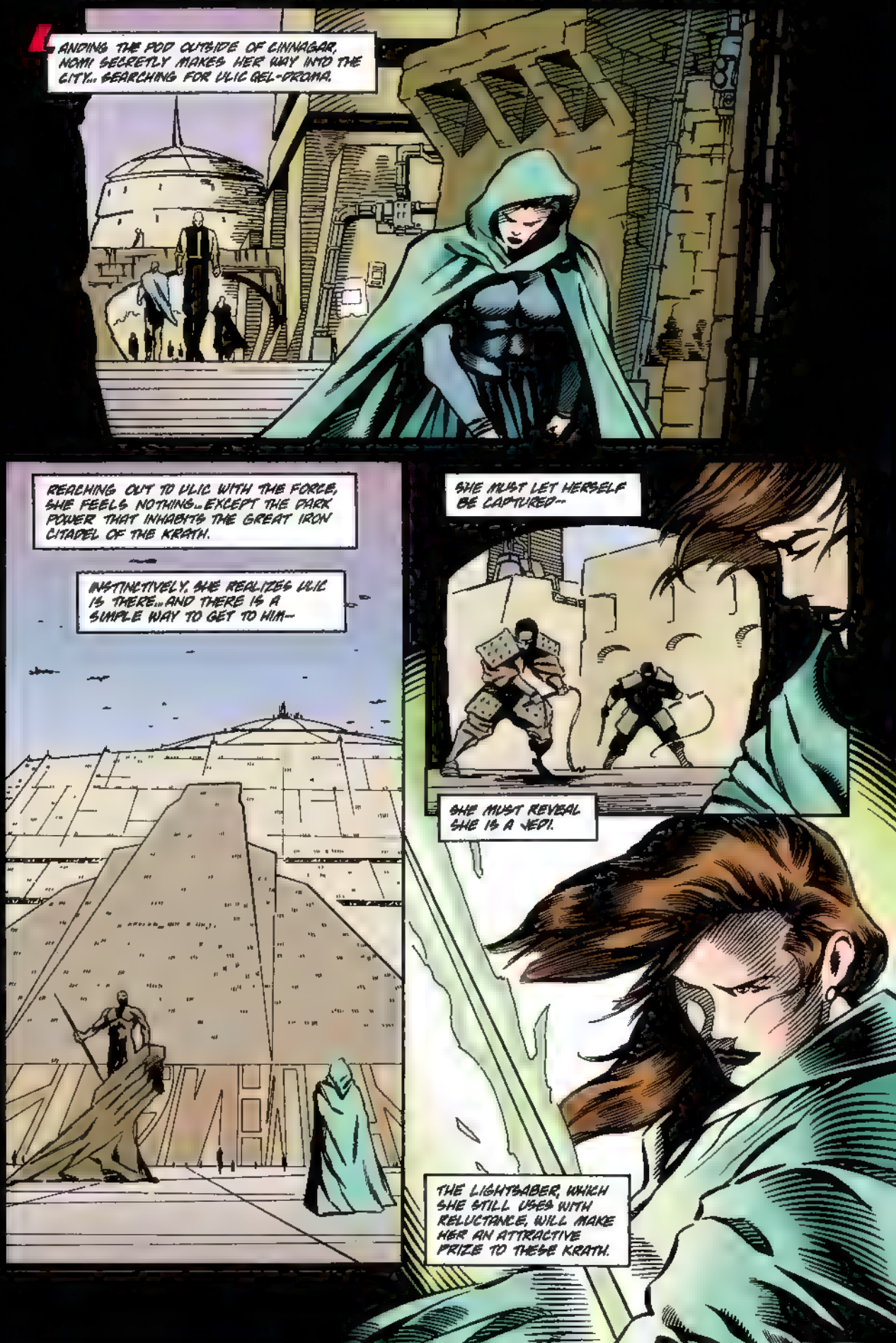
4 AVIN FOUR.
ON THE VERDANT JUNGLE MOON, ANOTHER PROTÉGÉ OF SITH MAGIC IS LEARNING THE MEANING OF POWER. BY LIFTING THE CURSE OF NAGA SADOW, EXAR KUN HAS BECOME THE LEADER OF THE MASSASSI.
THE MASSASSI BELIEVE THAT THIS JEDI IS THE RETURNED DARK LORD OF THE SITH FORETOLD IN THEIR LEGENDS. BUT KUN CARES LESS FOR TITLES THAN HE DOES FOR POWER ITSELF.
HE HAS ORDERED THE MASSASSI TO BUILD TEMPLES ACCORDING TO THE ANCIENT SITH DESIGNS...TEMPLES WHICH WILL FOCUS GREAT DARK-SIDE ENERGIES IN THIS PLACE.

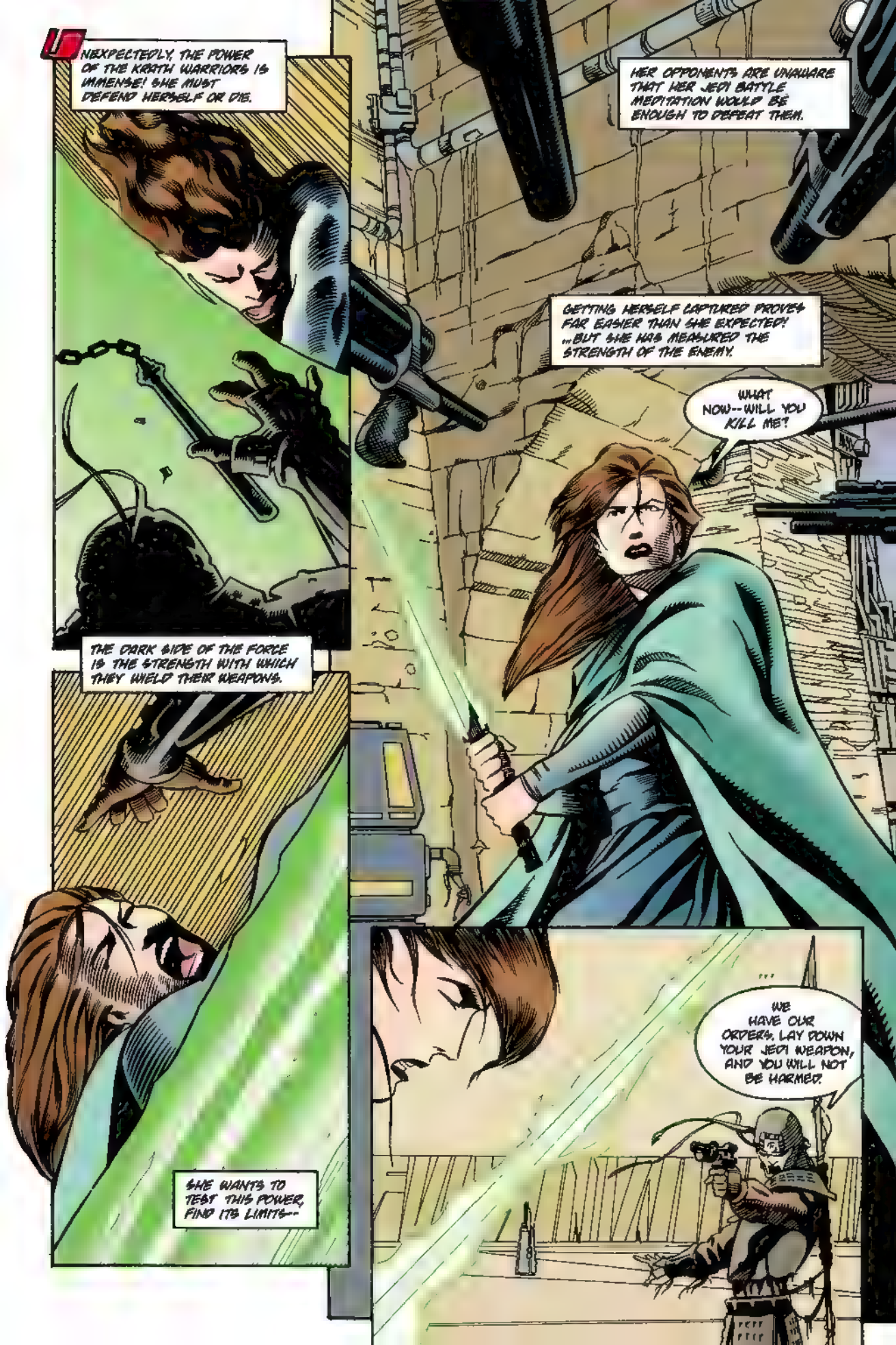

WHEN KUN ARRIVED ON YAVIN FOUR, THE MASSASSI ATTACKED HIM AND DESTROYED HIS SHIP, STARSTORM ONE.
BUT NOW HE IS THEIR MASTER. THEY FREELY GIVE HIM THEIR STRENGTH.
INDEED, MOST OF THE MASSASSI ARE ENTHUSIASTIC FOLLOWERS OF THEIR DARK LORD.
WITH HIM AS THEIR LEADER, SURELY THEY WILL ONCE AGAIN BECOME SITH...CONQUERORS OF WORLDS.
THE MASSASSI CAN BELIEVE WHATEVER THEY LIKE...AS LONG AS THEY CONTINUE TO OBEY ME.
AS THE MASSASSI CARRY OUT HIS GRANDIOSE PLANS, EXAR KUN CONTINUES HIS RESEARCH INTO THE MYSTERIES OF YAVIN FOUR.


THIS OLD TEMPLE... THE GUARDIAN CREATURE WAS PLACED HERE TO PROTECT A GREAT POWER.
I CAN FEEL SOMETHING MORE, SOMETHING ANCIENT, DEEP BELOW.
FREEDON NADD SAID THAT NAGA SADOW WAS A SITH ALCHEMIST... HE KNEW SECRETS BEYOND THE POWERS OF JEDI.
SADOW'S CURSE IS GONE... BUT HIS MAGICIAN'S POWER LIVES ON.
...A POWER THAT COULD EASILY DESTROY ME, UNLESS I LEARN TO MASTER IT.
...SO MASTER IT I SHALL!

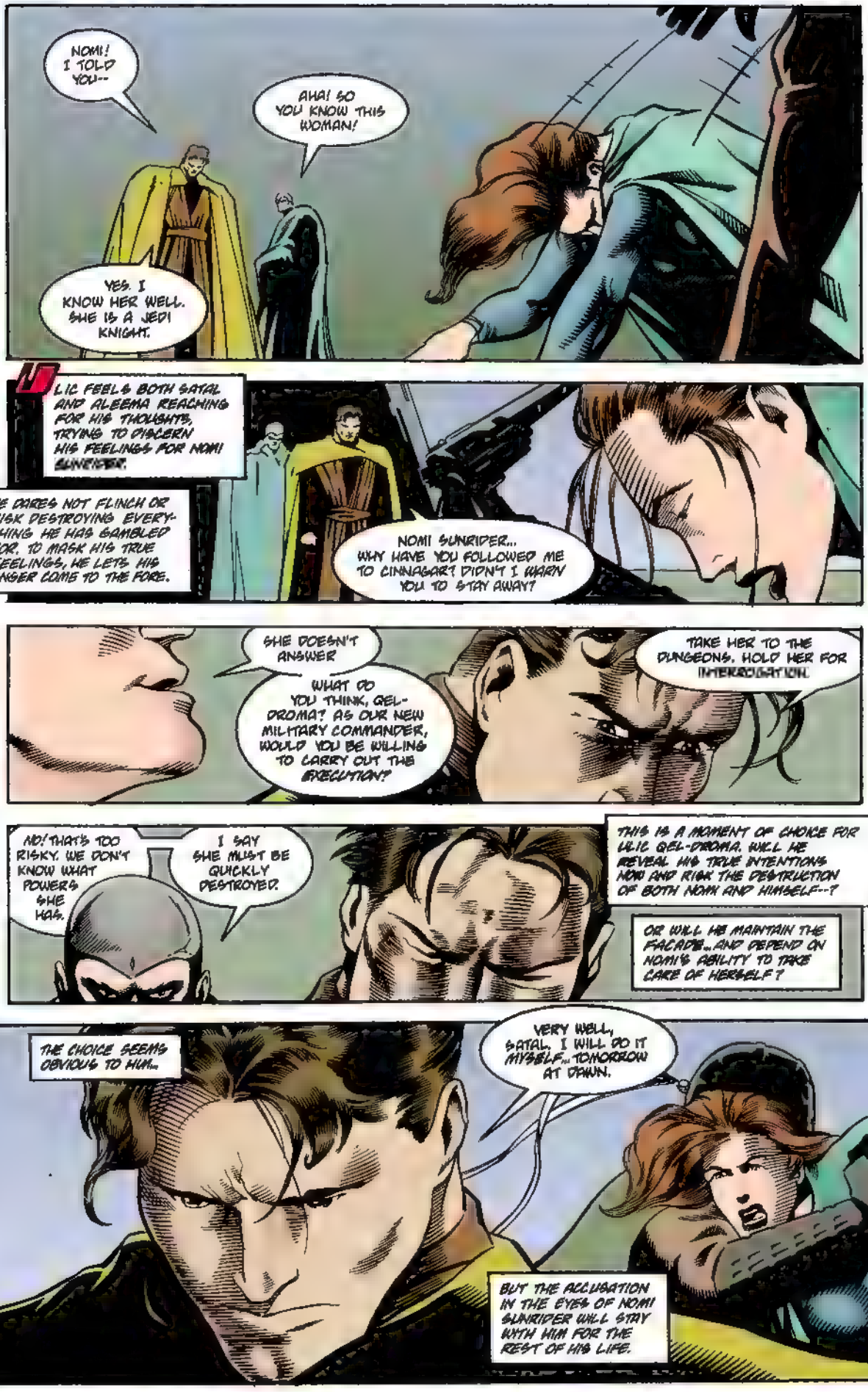

IN THE MONTHS SINCE HE ABANDONED MASTER VODO, EXAR KUN HAS PLUNGED DEEP INTO THE GALAXY'S DARK PAST.
ON ONDERON HE FOUND THE TOMB OF FREEDON NADD...AND NADD'S SPIRIT, WHO LED HIM TO THE SITH MAUSOLEUMS ON KORRIBAN.
NOW, BENEATH THE ANCIENT TEMPLES ON YAVIN FOUR, HE PENETRATES THE HIDDEN WORLD OF SITH MAGIC.
OF COURSE! THE SPACECRAFT THAT BROUGHT THE ORIGINAL SITH RENEGADES TO THE JUNGLE MOON OF YAVIN!
IF IT STILL OPERATES, I WON'T HAVE TO BE STRANDED ON THIS MOON!
IN A HIDDEN CHAMBER NEXT TO THE SITH STARSHIP, EXAR KUN FINDS A TROVE OF EQUIPMENT--THE APPARATUS OF SITH ALCHEMY!
AMAZING! NOW WE GET TO THE HEART OF THINGS!

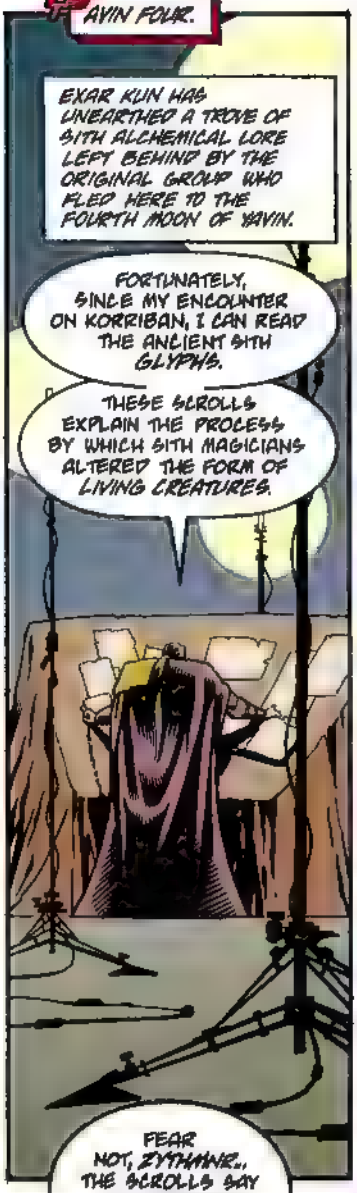
LEAVING HER DAUGHTER IN THE CARE OF MASTER THON, NOMI SUNRIDER HAS TRAVELED WITH CAY GEL-DROMA AND TOTT DONEETA TO THE EMPRESS TETA SYSTEM.
THIS IS IT. WE'RE IN PARKING ORBIT DIRECTLY OVER CINNAGAR.
ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO GO THROUGH WITH THIS?
THE HARDEST PART WILL BE FINDING ULIC. I CAN'T SEEM TO REACH HIM WITH THE FORCE.
NOR CAN I. I STILL THINK WE SHOULD GO IN AS A TEAM AND TAKE HIM OUT OF THERE...IF HE'S STILL ALIVE.
NO, WE CAN'T RISK COMPROMISING ULIC.
I NEED TO CONTACT HIM IN SECRET... IF HE'S STILL ALIVE. I NEED TO FIND OUT WHAT HE'S LEARNED ABOUT THE KRATH.
PREPARE TO LAUNCH THE ESCAPE POD!
"GOOD LUCK, NOMI. GIVE US A SIGNAL WHEN YOU'RE READY TO BE PICKED UP...OR IF YOU NEED SOME FIREPOWER. WE'LL HIDE THE NEBULON RANGER IN THE SHADOW OF THE TETAN MOON."


LANDING THE POD OUTSIDE OF CINNAGAR, NOMI SECRETLY MAKES HER WAY INTO THE CITY... SEARCHING FOR ULIC QEL-DROMA.
REACHING OUT TO ULIC WITH THE FORCE, SHE FEELS NOTHING...EXCEPT THE DARK POWER THAT INHABITS THE GREAT IRON CITADEL OF THE KRATH.
INSTINCTIVELY, SHE REALIZES ULIC IS THERE...AND THERE IS A SIMPLE WAY TO GET TO HIM--
SHE MUST LET HERSELF BE CAPTURED--
SHE MUST REVEAL SHE IS A JEDI.
THE LIGHTSABER, WHICH SHE STILL USES WITH RELUCTANCE, WILL MAKE HER AN ATTRACTIVE PRIZE TO THESE KRATH.


UNEXPECTEDLY, THE POWER OF THE KRATH WARRIORS IS IMMENSE! SHE MUST DEFEND HERSELF OR DIE.
HER OPPONENTS ARE UNAWARE THAT HER JEDI BATTLE MEDITATION WOULD BE ENOUGH TO DEFEAT THEM.
GETTING HERSELF CAPTURED PROVES FAR EASIER THAN SHE EXPECTED! ...BUT SHE HAS MEASURED THE STRENGTH OF THE ENEMY.
WHAT NOW--WILL YOU KILL ME?
THE DARK SIDE OF THE FORCE IS THE STRENGTH WITH WHICH THEY WIELD THEIR WEAPONS.
SHE WANTS TO TEST THIS POWER, FIND ITS LIMITS--
WE HAVE OUR ORDERS. LAY DOWN YOUR JEDI WEAPON, AND YOU WILL NOT BE HARMED.

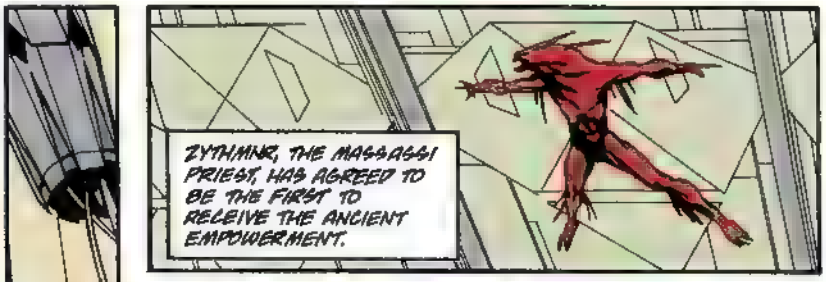
AT THAT MOMENT, IN THE KRATH WAR ROOM, ULIC QEL-DROMA IS PROVING THAT HE IS SINCERE ABOUT HELPING SATAL AND ALEEMA.
THIS GEAR MECHANISM HAS BEEN OBSOLETE FOR THIRTY-FIVE YEARS.
THESE PRIMITIVE CONCUSSION WEAPONS YOU'RE USING NEED TO BE REPLACED IF THE KRATH ARE GOING TO EXPAND THEIR INFLUENCE BEYOND THIS SYSTEM.
THE JEDI AND REPUBLIC WARSHIPS ARE ALL ARMED WITH THE NEW LASERS.
I SUGGEST WE GIVE QEL-DROMA COMMAND OF OUR ARMED FORCES. HE IS MORE VERSED IN THE ART OF MODERN WARFARE THAN WE ARE.
WHY? SO HE CAN HAND US OVER TO THE JEDI FOR JUDGMENT?
I HAVE JUST RECEIVED INTERESTING NEWS. ANOTHER JEDI--A WOMAN--HAS LANDED SECRETLY IN CINNAGAR.
WHAT IS IT, QEL-DROMA? THE BEGINNING OF AN INVASION?
YOU WERE SENT TO CINNAGAR TO INFILTRATE US, WEREN'T YOU!
NO...IT IS AS I SAID. I CAME OF MY OWN VOLITION.
BUT THIS WOMAN...WHO IS SHE?
YOU'RE ABOUT TO FIND OUT.
BRING HER IN!

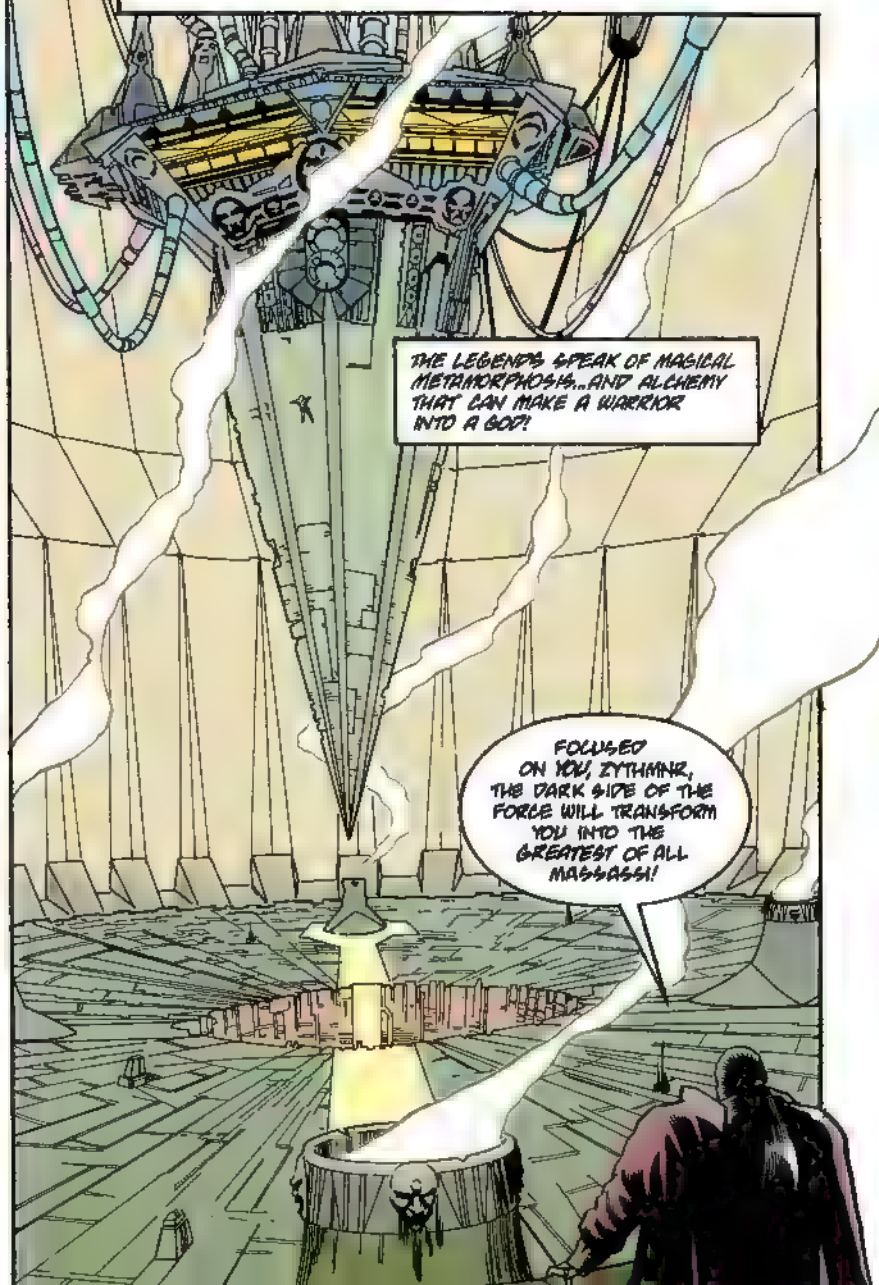

NOMI! I TOLD YOU--
AHA! SO YOU KNOW THIS WOMAN!
YES. I KNOW HER WELL. SHE IS A JEDI KNIGHT.
LIC FEELS BOTH SATAL AND ALEEMA REACHING FOR HIS THOUGHTS, TRYING TO DISCERN HIS FEELINGS FOR NOMI SUNRIDER.
HE DARES NOT FLINCH OR RISK DESTROYING EVERYTHING HE HAS GAMBLED FOR. TO MASK HIS TRUE FEELINGS, HE LETS HIS ANGER COME TO THE FORE.
NOMI SUNRIDER... WHY HAVE YOU FOLLOWED ME TO CINNAGAR? DIDN'T I WARN YOU TO STAY AWAY?
SHE DOESN'T ANSWER
WHAT DO YOU THINK, GEL-DROMA? AS OUR NEW MILITARY COMMANDER, WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO CARRY OUT THE EXECUTION?
TAKE HER TO THE DUNGEONS. HOLD HER FOR INTERROGATION.
NO! THAT'S TOO RISKY. WE DON'T KNOW WHAT POWERS SHE HAS.
I SAY SHE MUST BE QUICKLY DESTROYED.
THIS IS A MOMENT OF CHOICE FOR LIC GEL-DROMA. WILL HE REVEAL HIS TRUE INTENTIONS NOW AND RISK THE DESTRUCTION OF BOTH NOMI AND HIMSELF--?
OR WILL HE MAINTAIN THE FACADE...AND DEPEND ON NOMI'S ABILITY TO TAKE CARE OF HERSELF?
THE CHOICE SEEMS OBVIOUS TO HIM...
VERY WELL, SATAL. I WILL DO IT MYSELF...TOMORROW AT DAWN.
BUT THE ACCUSATION IN THE EYES OF NOMI SUNRIDER WILL STAY WITH HIM FOR THE REST OF HIS LIFE.

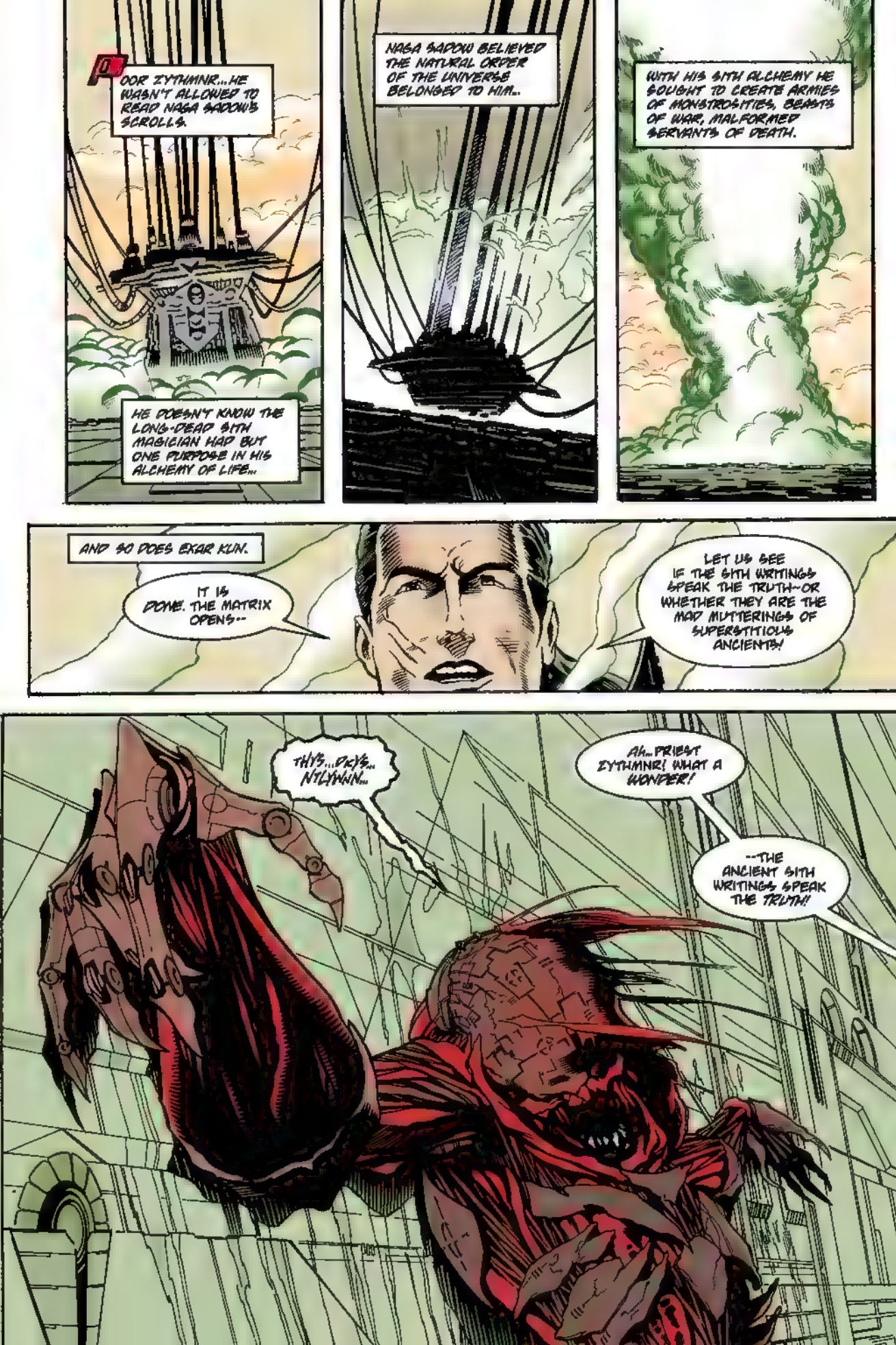

EXAR KUN HAS UNEARTHED A TROVE OF SITH ALCHEMICAL LORE LEFT BEHIND BY THE ORIGINAL GROUP WHO FLED HERE TO THE FOURTH MOON OF YAVIN.
FORTUNATELY, SINCE MY ENCOUNTER ON KORRIBAN, I CAN READ THE ANCIENT SITH GLYPHS.
THESE SCROLLS EXPLAIN THE PROCESS BY WHICH SITH MAGICIANS ALTERED THE FORM OF LIVING CREATURES.

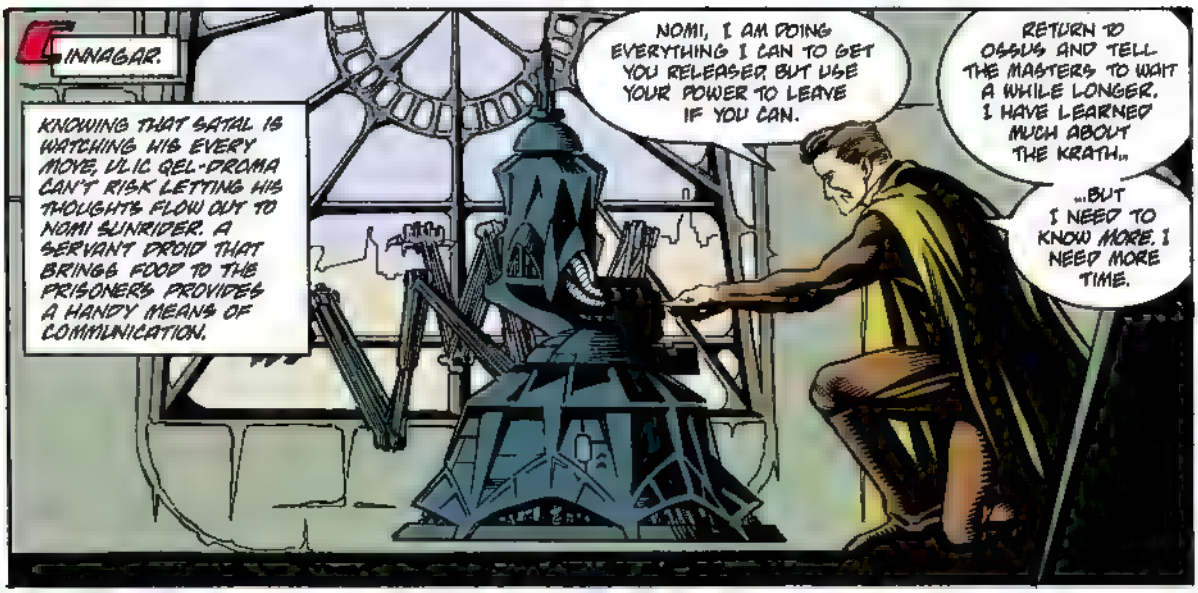
FEAR NOT, ZYTHMNR., THE SCROLLS SAY THE TRANSFORMATION IS PAINLESS!

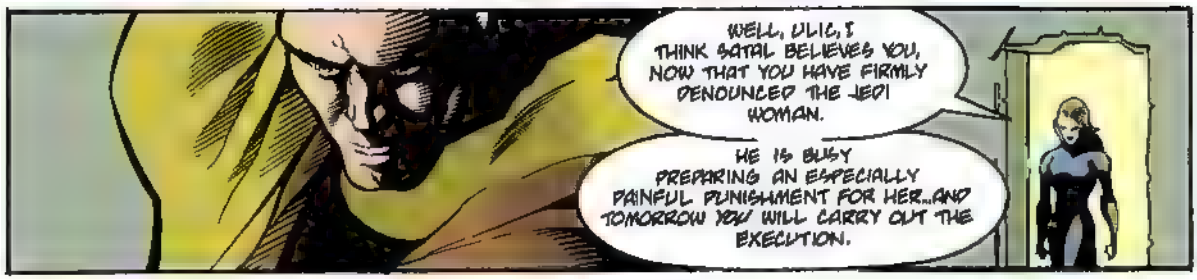
GYSN TRTH WYNLK N'KUN!
NNGYYYY!


ZYTHMNR, THE MASSASSI PRIEST, HAS AGREED TO BE THE FIRST TO RECEIVE THE ANCIENT EMPOWERMENT.

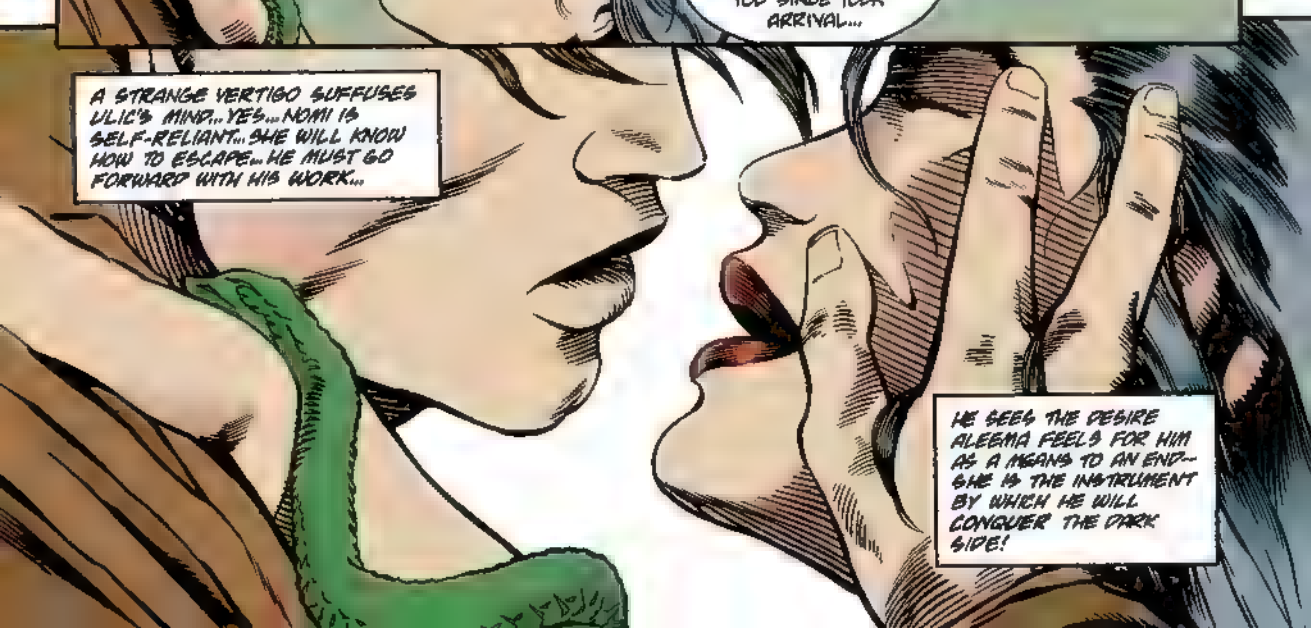

THE LEGENDS SPEAK OF MAGICAL METAMORPHOSIS...AND ALCHEMY THAT CAN MAKE A WARRIOR INTO A GOD!
FOCUSED ON YOU, ZYTHMNR, THE DARK SIDE OF THE FORCE WILL TRANSFORM YOU INTO THE GREATEST OF ALL MASSASSI!


POOR ZYTHMNR...HE WASN'T ALLOWED TO READ NAGA SADOW'S SCROLLS.
HE DOESN'T KNOW THE LONG-DEAD SITH MAGICIAN HAD BUT ONE PURPOSE IN HIS ALCHEMY OF LIFE...
NAGA SADOW BELIEVED THE NATURAL ORDER OF THE UNIVERSE BELONGED TO HIM...
WITH HIS SITH ALCHEMY HE SOUGHT TO CREATE ARMIES OF MONSTROSITIES, BEASTS OF WAR, MALFORMED SERVANTS OF DEATH.
AND SO DOES EKAR KUN.
IT IS DONE. THE MATRIX OPENS--
LET US SEE IF THE SITH WRITINGS SPEAK THE TRUTH--OR WHETHER THEY ARE THE MAD MUTTERINGS OF SUPERSTITIOUS ANCIENTS!
THIS...DOES... NOTHING...
AH...PRIEST ZYTHMNR! WHAT A WONDER!
--THE ANCIENT SITH WRITINGS SPEAK THE TRUTH!

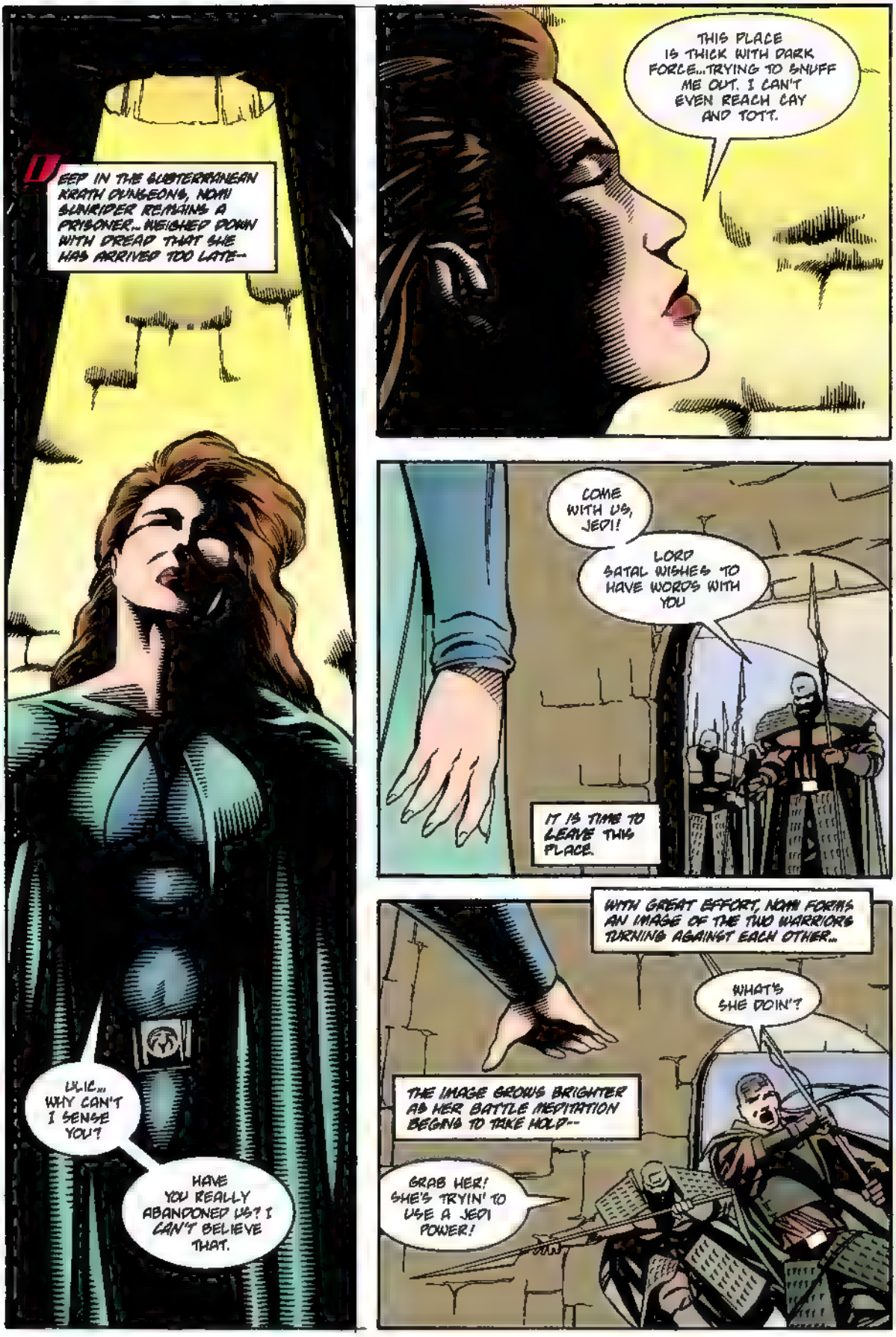

KINNAGAR.
KNOWING THAT SATAL IS WATCHING HIS EVERY MOVE, ULIC QEL-DROMA CAN'T RISK LETTING HIS THOUGHTS FLOW OUT TO NOMI SUNRIDER. A SERVANT DROID THAT BRINGS FOOD TO THE PRISONERS PROVIDES A HANDY MEANS OF COMMUNICATION.
NOMI, I AM DOING EVERYTHING I CAN TO GET YOU RELEASED. BUT USE YOUR POWER TO LEAVE IF YOU CAN.
RETURN TO OSSUS AND TELL THE MASTERS TO WAIT A WHILE LONGER. I HAVE LEARNED MUCH ABOUT THE KRATH...
...BUT I NEED TO KNOW MORE. I NEED MORE TIME.


WELL, ULIC, I THINK SATAL BELIEVES YOU, NOW THAT YOU HAVE FIRMLY DENOUNCED THE JEDI WOMAN.
HE IS BUSY PREPARING AN ESPECIALLY PAINFUL PUNISHMENT FOR HER...AND TOMORROW YOU WILL CARRY OUT THE EXECUTION.

YOU HAVE NEVER DOUBTED ME...HAVE YOU?
LET'S SAY I TRUST MY OWN POWER. I'M SURE YOU CAME HERE WITH THE INTENTION OF SPYING ON US.
BUT MORE INTERESTING THINGS PREOCCUPY YOU SINCE YOUR ARRIVAL...


A STRANGE VERTIGO SUFFUSES ULIC'S MIND...YES...NOMI IS SELF-RELIANT...SHE WILL KNOW HOW TO ESCAPE...HE MUST GO FORWARD WITH HIS WORK...
HE SEES THE DESIRE ALEEMA FEELS FOR HIM AS A MEANS TO AN END--SHE IS THE INSTRUMENT BY WHICH HE WILL CONQUER THE DARK SIDE!

BUT ULIC DOES NOT BARGAIN ON THE WATCHFULNESS OF SATAL KETO.
COME WITH ME, DROID. MY MASTER HAS A JOB FOR YOU.
I WILL COME AT ONCE, SIR
--BUT I NEED TO KNOW MORE. I NEED MORE TIME. TELL THEM NOT TO COME LOOKING FOR ME. WHEN I HAVE LEARNED EVERYTHING I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE DARK SIDE...
...I WILL RETURN TO OSSUS.
PLEASE UNDERSTAND I MUST BREAK THE POWER OF KETO AND ALEEMA..
THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATH OF MASTER ARCA.
AS MY COUSIN FAWNS OVER THIS JEDI FOOL, HE PREPARES TO DESTROY US.
BUT I WILL DESTROY HIM.
NORSOR.. HAVE THE JEDI WOMAN BROUGHT TO ME... SEND TWENTY MEN... SHE IS VERY POWERFUL.
AND I WANT YOU TO GO AT ONCE AND ASSASSINATE QEL-DROMA. ALEEMA WILL PROTEST... IGNORE HER!
YES, LORD KETO.


DEEP IN THE SUBTERRANEAN KRATH DUNGEONS, NOMI SUNRIDER REMAINS A PRISONER... WEIGHED DOWN WITH DREAD THAT SHE HAS ARRIVED TOO LATE--
ULIC... WHY CAN'T I SENSE YOU?
HAVE YOU REALLY ABANDONED US? I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT.
THIS PLACE IS THICK WITH DARK FORCE...TRYING TO SNUFF ME OUT. I CAN'T EVEN REACH CAY AND TOTT.
COME WITH US, JEDI!
LORD SATAL WISHES TO HAVE WORDS WITH YOU
IT IS TIME TO LEAVE THIS PLACE.
WITH GREAT EFFORT, NOMI FORMS AN IMAGE OF THE TWO WARRIORS TURNING AGAINST EACH OTHER...
WHAT'S SHE DOIN'?
THE IMAGE GROWS BRIGHTER AS HER BATTLE MEDITATION BEGINS TO TAKE HOLD--
GRAB HER! SHE'S TRYIN' TO USE A JEDI POWER!

LIKE ARKANIAN DRAGONS, THE TETANS TURN UPON EACH OTHER WITH MORTAL VIOLENCE!
TRAITORS!
THE REST JOIN IN...AND NOMI SUNRIDER WALKS THROUGH THE SLAUGHTER TO FREEDOM!
DARKSIDERS CAN BE SO BRUTISH--THEIR MINDS ARE DULLED BY LIGHT STARVATION!
A COMLINK! GOOD!
USING HER JEDI BATTLE MEDITATION TO SUBDUE A HOST OF ADVERSARIES, NOMI FINDS SECRET ACCESS TO THE STREETS OF CINNAGAR!
CAY...TO TT... IF YOU CAN HEAR ME...COME AT ONCE. WE MUST TAKE ULIC OUT OF THIS MADNESS!

EANWHILE, AS THE HOUR FOR HER EXECUTION DRAWS NEAR, ULIC PREPARES TO VISIT THE DETENTION AREA TO MAKE SURE NOMI HAS ESCAPED.

STRANGE...I DON'T FEEL QUITE MYSELF...IS IT THAT SITH POISON...OR AM I FEELING THE EFFECTS OF ALEEMA'S POWER?

IF ALEEMA IS WORKING TO UNDERMINE ULIC'S DETERMINATION, OTHERS ARE INTENT ON HIS DESTRUCTION!

DIE JEDI!

THE ASSASSIN SENT BY SATAL KETO ATTACKS WITH UNBRIDLED FEROCITY--SUDDENLY ULIC'S REFLEXES COME FULLY AWAKE!

ZZAKK

FRZZAAK

QEL-DROMA! WHAT IS IT?

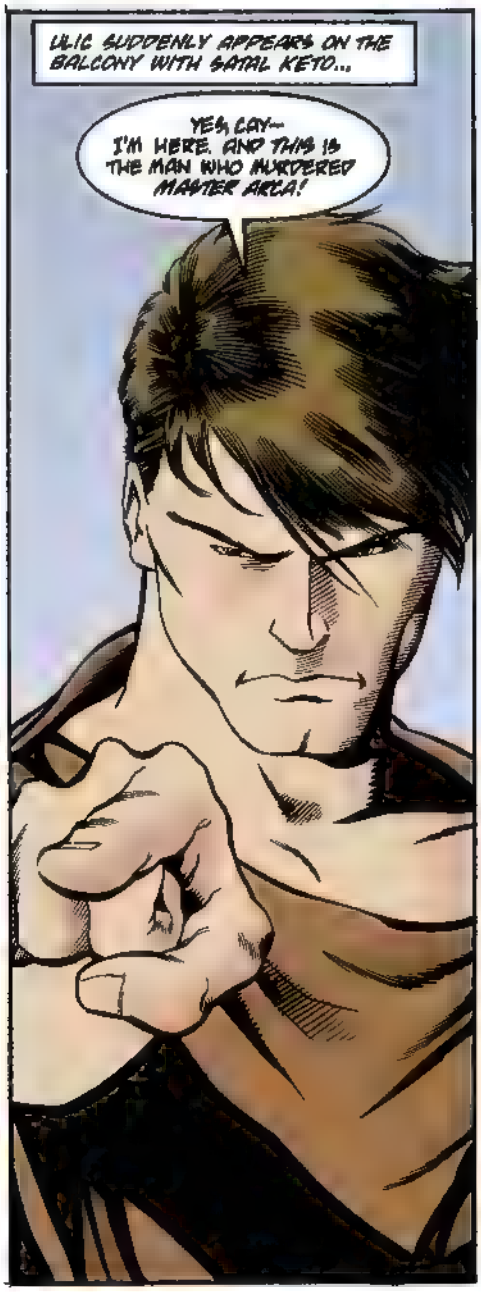
YOUR COUSIN'S WORK, I'M AFRAID.

YES, I KNOW THE ASSASSIN. HE IS SATAL'S SLAVE. SATAL IS SO STUPID. IT WAS HIS IDEA TO ATTACK THE JEDI ASSEMBLY ON DENEBA...HE'S SO BRUTISH...HE LACKS YOUR SUBTLETY.

I HAVE NO MORE TIME FOR FLATTERY. I HAVE WORK TO DO. DON'T TRY TO STOP ME!

ALERTED BY NOMI'S COMLINK MESSAGE, LAY AND TOTT BRING THE NEBULON RANGER SCREAMING IN OVER LINNAGAR.
YAAAHH!
THESE ARE THE COORDINATES. WHERE IS SHE?
THERE SHE IS! NOMI!
WHAT'S THE PLAN?
THAT TUNNEL LEADS DIRECTLY INTO THE FORTRESS. I DISPOSED OF THE GUARDS. WE'LL GO TO THE ROYAL QUARTERS AND BRING OUT LILIC!
WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR? LET'S GET HIM!
BUT WORD OF NOMI SUNRIDER'S ESCAPE HAS REACHED SATAL KETO!

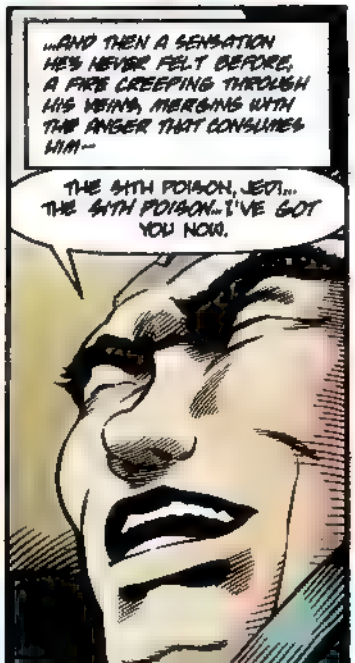
MORE JEDI KNIGHTS! MY DUNGEONS WILL OVERFLOW WITH THESE FOOLS!
NOT FROM THE LOOKS OF IT, KETO!
IF YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOOD FOR YOU, YOU'LL HAND OVER ULIC QEL-DROMA AT ONCE.
WAIT-- I SENSE HIM... MY BROTHER! HE'S HERE!


ULIC SUDDENLY APPEARS ON THE BALCONY WITH SATAL KETO...
YES, CAY-- I'M HERE. AND THIS IS THE MAN WHO MURDERED MASTER ARCA!

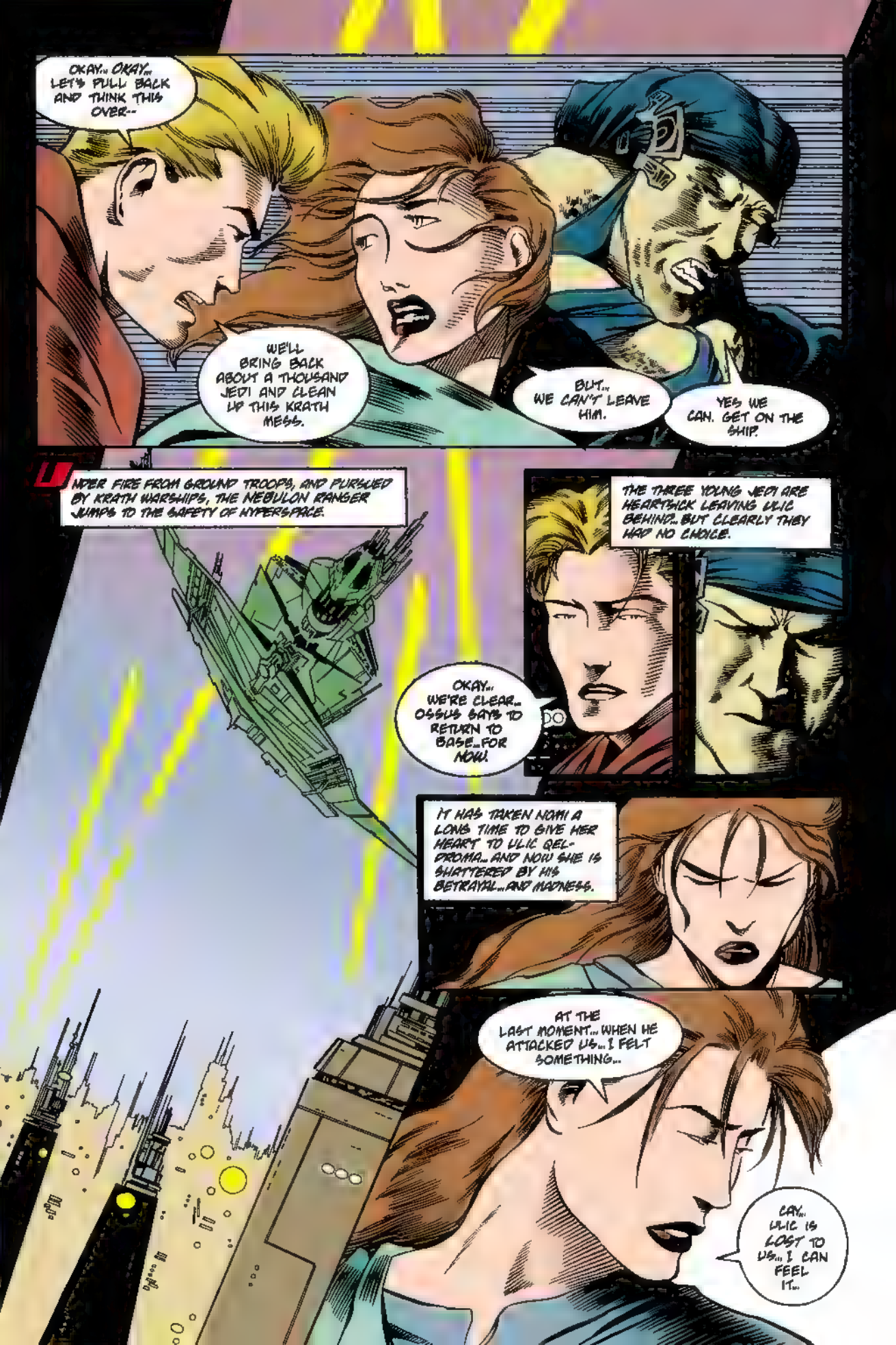
THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO DEAL WITH ARCA'S KILLER!
CAREFUL, JEDI... DIDN'T YOUR MASTER TELL YOU THAT ANGER IS NOT THE WAY?!

SOME THINGS CANNOT BE FORGIVEN... SOME CRIMES DESERVE THE JUSTICE OF HATRED!
Aha!

WAVES OF ANGER WASH OVER ULIC, OBLITERATING ALL THOUGHT...


...AND THEN A SENSATION HE'S NEVER FELT BEFORE. A FIRE CREEPING THROUGH HIS VEINS, MERGING WITH THE ANGER THAT CONSUMES HIM--
THE SITH POISON, JEDI... THE SITH POISON... I'VE GOT YOU NOW.

THE ANCIENT SITH WERE MASTERS OF ALCHEMY... THEY UNDERSTOOD HOW TO MULTIPLY THE CHEMISTRY OF RAGE IN A MAN'S VEINS--
IT IS THE ANGER... THE ANGER IGNITES THE SITH POISON I INJECTED THE DAY YOU ARRIVED. YOU'LL SEEEEEEEE...
C'MON, LILC--LET'S GET OUT OF HERE! THEY'RE SOUNDING THE ALARM... IN A SECOND WE'LL BE FIGHTIN' A ZILLION KRATH KILLERS!
GET AWAY FROM ME! I SWEAR I'LL KILL YOU ALL!
SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH HIM... GRAB HIM, CAY! WE GOTTA LEAVE!
NEVER!!
BUT THE PROCESS THAT HAS BEGUN IN LILC BUILDS TO CATASTROPHIC LEVELS... UNLEASHING WAVES OF DARK SIDE ENERGY IN HIS BODY AND AGAINST HIS FRIENDS!
GET AWAY!
SHRAAK!K

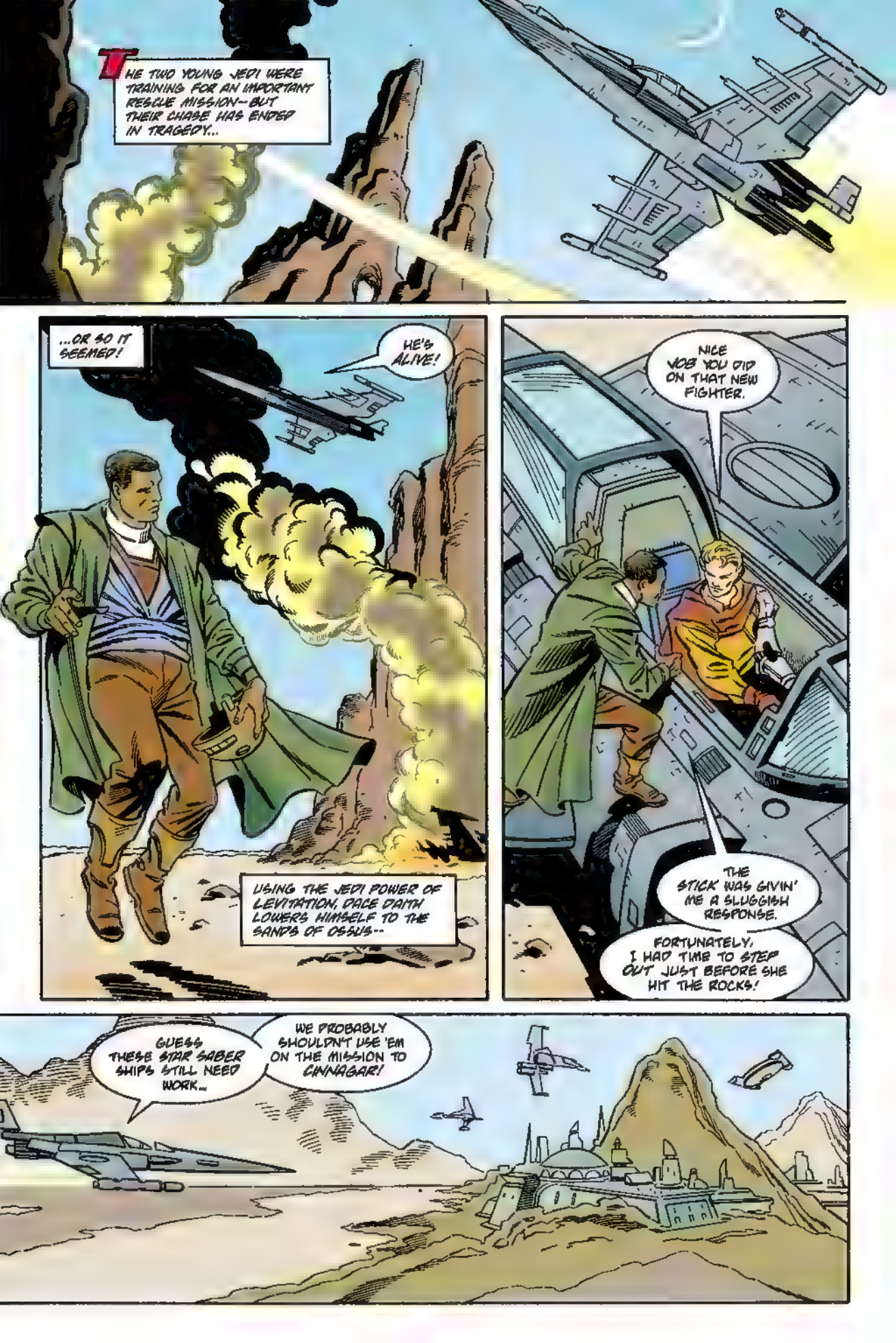

OKAY... OKAY... LET'S PULL BACK AND THINK THIS OVER--
WE'LL BRING BACK ABOUT A THOUSAND JEDI AND CLEAN UP THIS KRATH MESS.
BUT... WE CAN'T LEAVE HIM.
YES WE CAN. GET ON THE SHIP.
UNDER FIRE FROM GROUND TROOPS, AND PURSUED BY KRATH WARSHIPS, THE NEBULON RANGER JUMPS TO THE SAFETY OF HYPERSPACE.
THE THREE YOUNG JEDI ARE HEARTSICK LEAVING ULIC BEHIND... BUT CLEARLY THEY HAD NO CHOICE.
OKAY... WE'RE CLEAR... OSSUS SAYS TO RETURN TO BASE...FOR NOW.
IT HAS TAKEN NOMI A LONG TIME TO GIVE HER HEART TO ULIC QEL-DROMA... AND NOW SHE IS SHATTERED BY HIS BETRAYAL... AND MADNESS.
AT THE LAST MOMENT... WHEN HE ATTACKED US... I FELT SOMETHING...
...AY... ULIC IS LOST TO US... I CAN FEEL IT...

"WE'LL NEVER GET HIM BACK."
NOMI...CAY...TOTT. FORGIVE ME. I KNOW NOW WHAT FREEDON NADD MEANT WHEN HE SPOKE TO ME ON ONDERON--
I AM ON A PATH FROM WHICH THERE IS NO RETURN.
YAVIN FOUR. EXAR KUN HAS BROUGHT THE ANCIENT SITH STARSHIP TO THE LIGHT OF DAY.
WHEN I DESTROYED FREEDON NADD, HE CONTACTED OTHERS TO WARN THEM AGAINST ME... THE AMULET HAS SHOWN ME... THEY TOO ARE USING SITH POWER.
NAGA SADOW'S SHIP WAS PERFECTLY PRESERVED.
NOW THAT I AM NO LONGER STRANDED ON THE YAVIN MOON, IT IS TIME TO PUT MY POWER TO GOOD USE.
IT IS TIME TO REACH OUT TO THESE FELLOW STUDENTS OF FREEDON NADD--
THAT MAKES THEM A THREAT TO MY WORK.
--AND DESTROY THEM!

0 6SUG.
JEDI KNIGHTS CAY QEL-DROMA AND DACE DIATH ARE TESTING THE EXPERIMENTAL NEW STAR SABER ATTACK SHIPS IN THE ARID MOUNTAINS NEAR THE KNOSSA SPACEPORT.
THERE'S THE BIRD, DACE--MOVIN' RIGHT INTO YOUR SIGHTS!
--BUT WATCH THOSE ROCK FORMATIONS!
CAY AND DACE ARE IN PURSUIT OF A ROBOT DRONE DESIGNED TO SIMULATE THE EVASIVE TACTICS OF THE DEADLY DRAGON-BIRD OF ONDERON.
GOT 'IM ON THE SCOPE, CAY--!
NOW LET'S SEE IF THE TARGETING COMPUTER CAN FOLLOW HIS MOVES!

ONE
WITH THE SKILL OF A SEASONED COMBAT PILOT, DACE DIATH NAILS THE DRONE WITH HIS WING-CANNON!
BUT FOR ONE SPLIT SECOND, THE JEDI'S EYE WANDERS FROM HIS FLIGHT PATH--
WHOA--WHERE'D THAT ROCK COME FROM?!

IN THESE TREACHEROUS CANYONS, A SPLIT SECOND IS ALL IT TAKES TO LOSE A GOOD SHIP-- AND A GOOD JEDI!
DACE!
DACE IS GONE!
I TOLD HIM--!

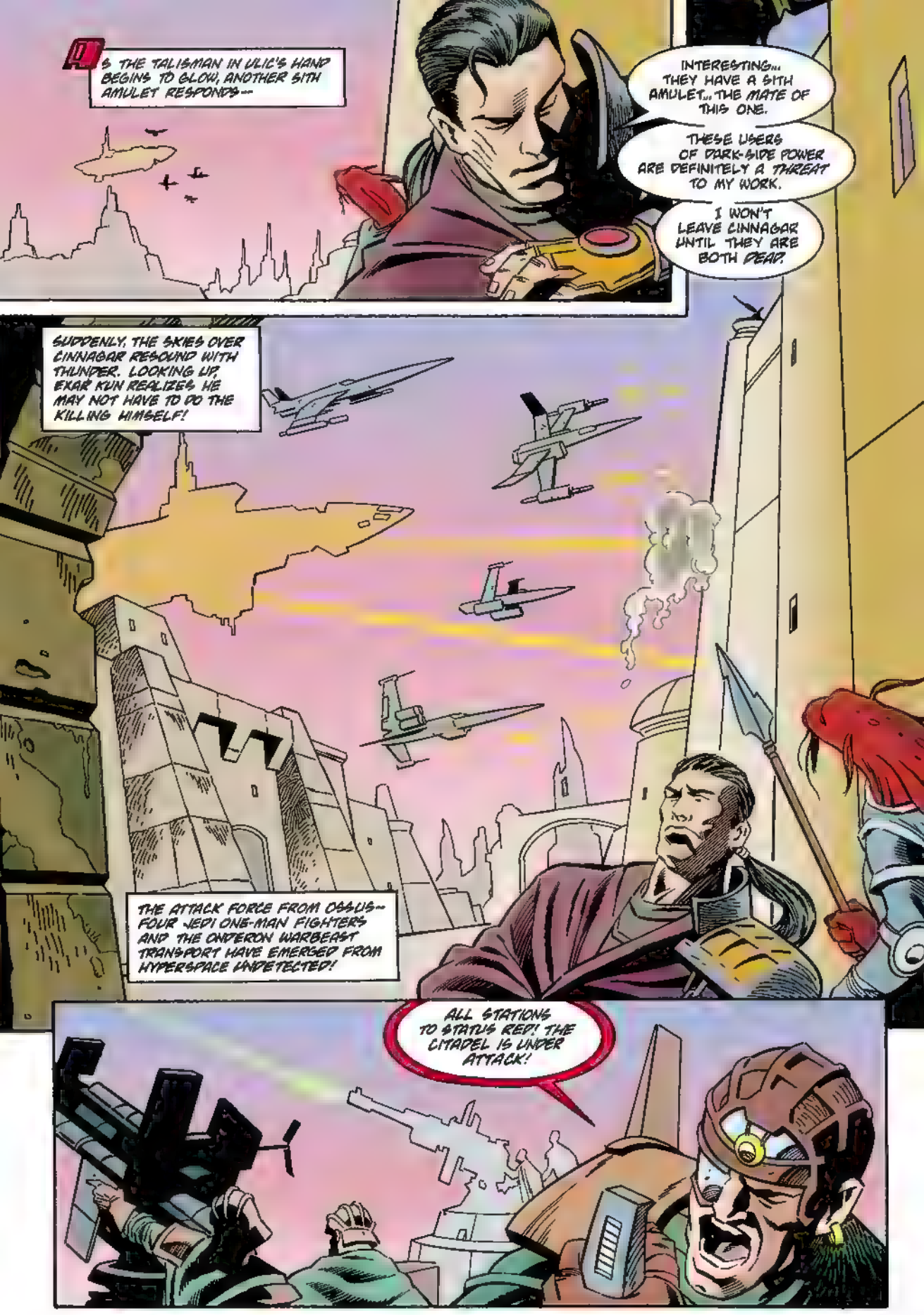

THE TWO YOUNG JEDI WERE TRAINING FOR AN IMPORTANT RESCUE MISSION--BUT THEIR CHASE HAS ENDED IN TRAGEDY...
...OR SO IT SEEMED!
HE'S ALIVE!
USING THE JEDI POWER OF LEVITATION, DACE DIATH LOWERS HIMSELF TO THE SANDS OF OSSUS--
NICE JOB YOU DID ON THAT NEW FIGHTER.
THE STICK WAS GIVIN' ME A SLUGGISH RESPONSE.
FORTUNATELY, I HAD TIME TO STEP OUT JUST BEFORE SHE HIT THE ROCKS!
GUESS THESE STAR SABER SHIPS STILL NEED WORK...
WE PROBABLY SHOULDN'T USE 'EM ON THE MISSION TO CINNAGAR!

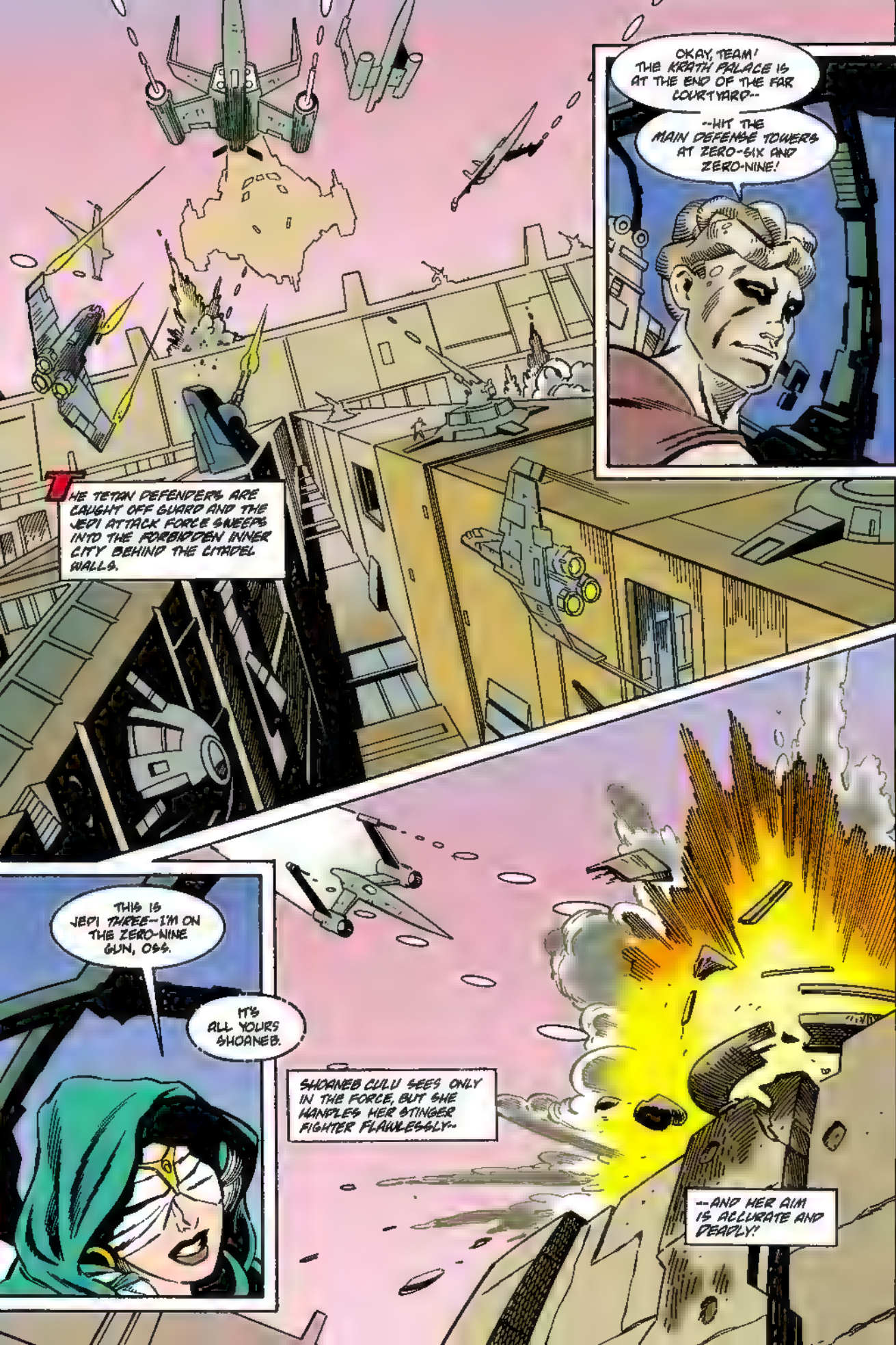
SAY AND DACE RETURN TO BASE, THE OTHER JEDI KNIGHTS GREET THEIR ALLY FROM ONDERON, ORON KIRA, WHO WILL JOIN THE ATTACK RUN TO CINNAGAR.
GLAD YOU'RE BRINGING YOUR BEAST-RIDERS, ORON--HOW MUCH DO THEIR MOUNTS EAT?
NOT MUCH... ABOUT A HUNDRED KILOS OF RAW VEGETABLE MATTER A DAY.
LISTEN UP! WE JUST GOT WORD--DACE CRASHED ONE OF THE STAR SABERS!
YOU OKAY, DACE? WHAT HAPPENED?
I'M FINE. BUT THE SABER FIGHTERS STILL GOT SOME BUGS IN 'EM.
MAYBE WE'D BETTER JUST TAKE THE STINGERS ON THIS RUN.
WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH STINGERS TO PROTECT THE BEAST TRANSPORT.
LISTEN, I CAN HANDLE A STAR SABER JUST PUSH THE STICK A LITTLE EARLY...AND USE THE FORCE. I CAN FLY IT!
HE CAN HAVE IT. I LIKE MY LITTLE STINGER.
IF DACE WANTS ANOTHER SHOT AT THE SABER, I WON'T STOP 'IM.
NOW THAT ORON AND THE WARBEASTS ARE HERE, I GUESS WE'RE READY TO GO!
HOLD ON, CAY... THE MASTERS WANT TO HAVE A WORD WITH US BEFORE WE LEAVE.

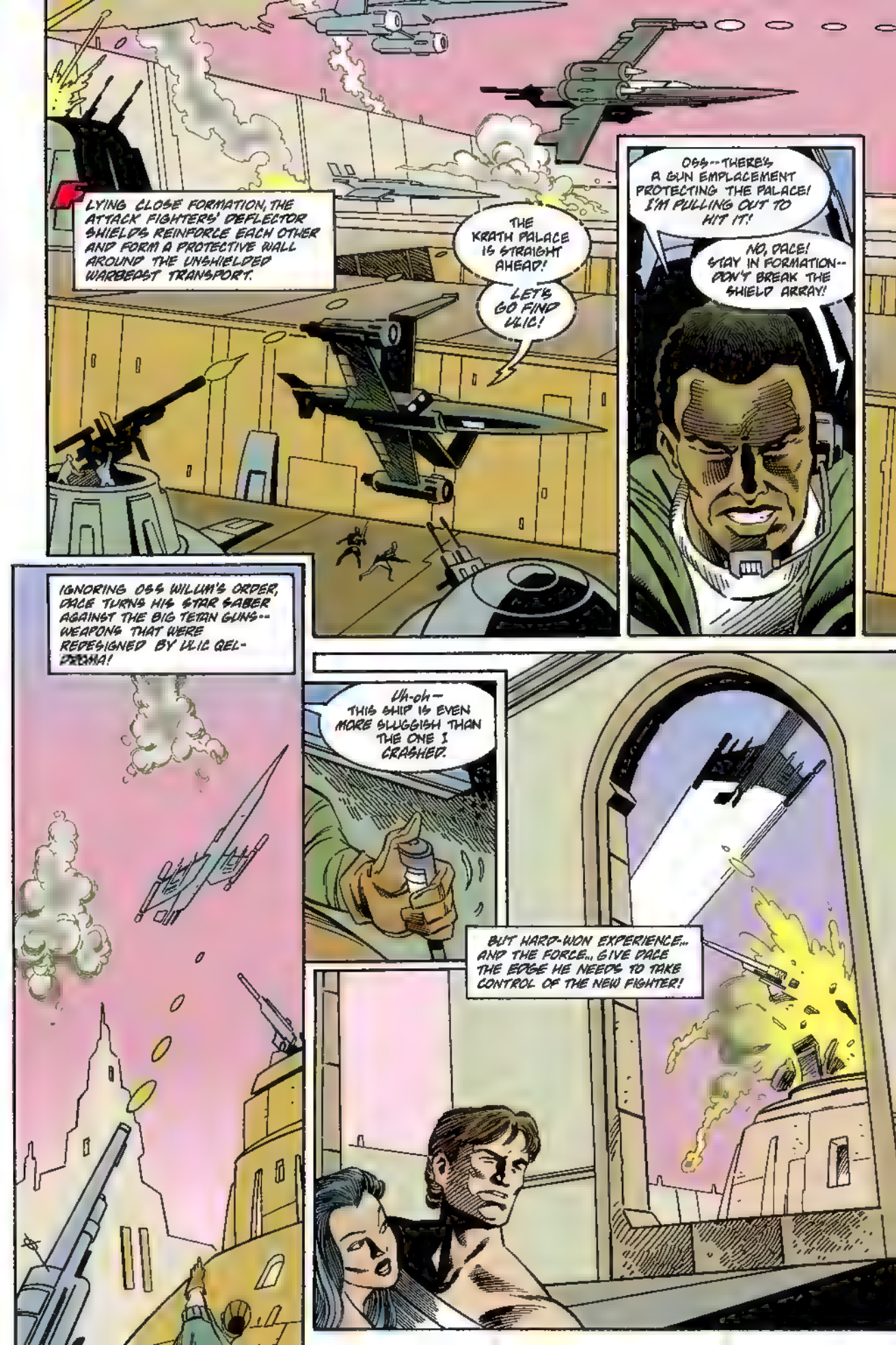
THE GREAT JEDI MASTERS OF THIS ERA SPEND PART OF EACH DAY MEDITATING TOGETHER ON THE FORCE.
RESPECTFULLY, THE YOUNG JEDI KNIGHTS WAIT TO BE ACKNOWLEDGED.
NGRTH TCHAA! OUR APPRENTICES HAVE COME TO RECEIVE OUR APPROVAL FOR THE TASK THEY MUST ACCOMPLISH...
...BUT ARE THEY WISE IN SEEKING TO TURN ULIC QEL-DROMA FROM THE PATH HE HAS CHOSEN?
MY BROTHER IS IN GREAT DANGER. WE KNOW THE KRATH HAS POISONED HIM WITH SITH POTIONS.
I AGREE WITH CAY. I TRUST ULIC, BUT THIS SITH EVIL HAS ALREADY TOUCHED HIM DEEPLY.
WE'VE GOT TO PULL HIM OUT OF THERE!
WE'VE GOT TO GET TO HIM BEFORE THEY DESTROY HIM.

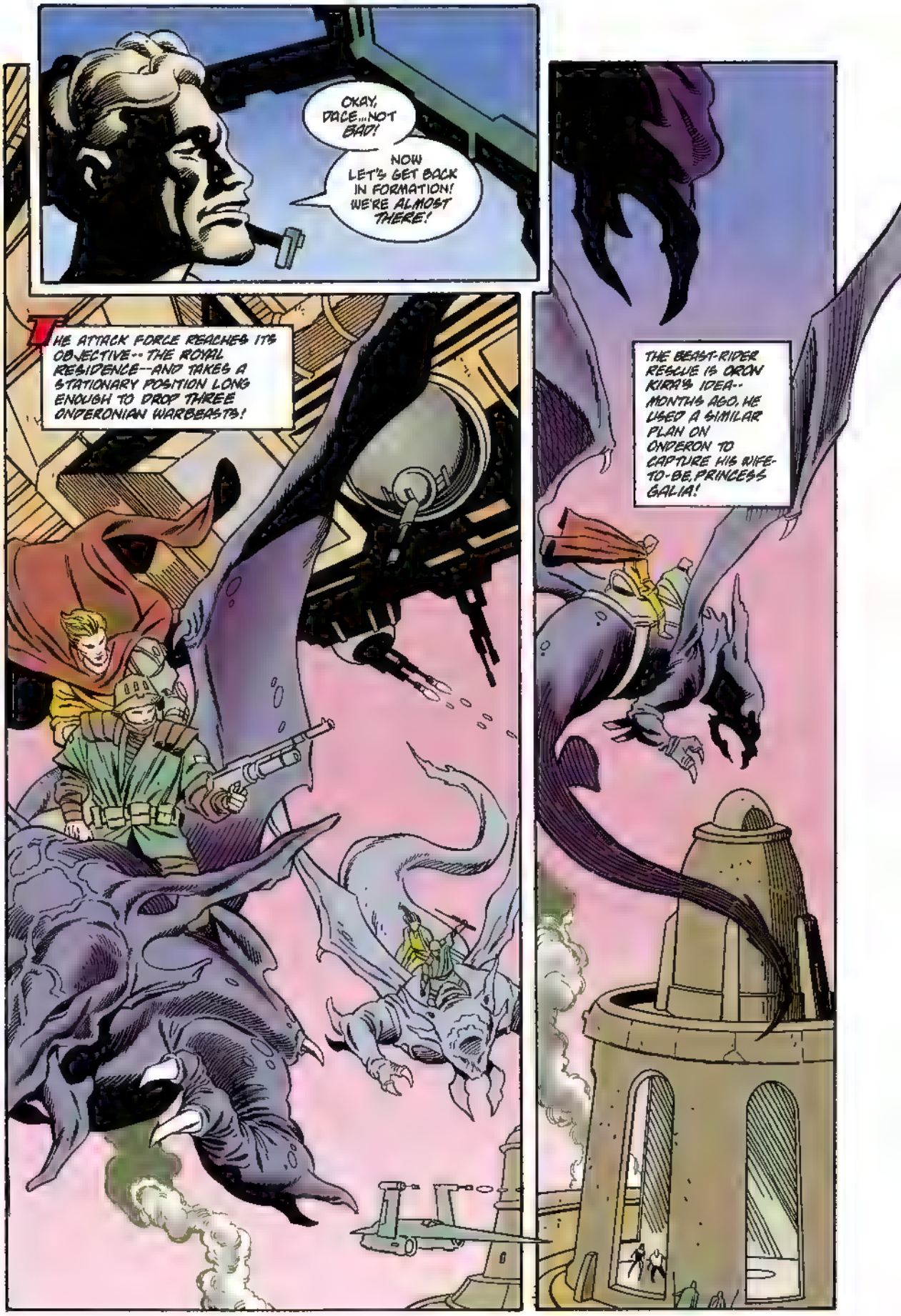
CERTAIN THINGS ARE A MATTER OF DESTINY, AND CERTAIN THINGS ARE A MATTER OF CHOICE.
IT IS POSSIBLE ULIC QEL-DROMA WILL TEACH HIMSELF A MUCH-NEEDED LESSON BY HIS OWN FOOLISH ACTIONS!
I DON'T AGREE, THON. SOMETIMES ENTITIES WHO HAVE BEEN INITIATED TO THE DARK SIDE CAN SEDUCE A JEDI INTO GIVING WAY TO THE POWER OF ANGER.
ONCE RAGE IS UNLEASHED, IT IS DIFFICULT TO CONTROL. IT LEADS ONE FARTHER AND FARTHER FROM THE POWER OF LIGHT. IT EVEN DESTROYS ORDINARY COMMON SENSE!
BUT MASTER YODO--I CAN'T LET THOSE PEOPLE DESTROY MY BROTHER! JEDI MUST HELP EACH OTHER.
I HAVE SEEN MY OWN APPRENTICE EXAR KUN TAKE THE DARK PATH. I HAVE TRIED TO HELP HIM... AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO.
BUT EVERY JEDI IS A FREE JEDI... IT WOULD BE UNWISE TO ATTEMPT TO COERCE ANYONE TO HOLD TO THE LIGHT AGAINST THEIR WILL.
WE UNDERSTAND, AND YOU HAVE OUR PERMISSION TO CARRY OUT YOUR MISSION.
BUT IF ULIC QEL-DROMA HAS CHOSEN THE DARK SIDE, HE MUST REMAIN FREE TO EXPERIENCE THE CONSEQUENCES OF HIS CHOICE. THAT IS THE JEDI WAY.
ONCE THE CHOICE IS MADE, THE WAY IS THROUGH, NOT BACK.
IF QEL-DROMA IS DESTROYED, OTHERS WILL NOT PERFORM THE DESTRUCTION.
HE WILL DESTROY HIMSELF.

CINNAGAR.
EXAR KUN AND TWO OF HIS MASSASSI HAVE MADE THEIR WAY TO THE IRON CITADEL WHERE THE KRATH COMMANDS. IT'S REIGN OF TERROR OVER THE EMPRESS TETA SYSTEM.
I SENSE MY FELLOW STUDENTS OF FREEDON NADD... BEHIND THESE WALLS!
KUN HAS COME TO CINNAGAR TO KILL HIS POTENTIAL RIVALS... ULIC QEL-DROMA AND ALEEMA!
ULIC... THIS AMULET IS FOR YOU... IT BELONGED TO SATAL. A GREAT JEDI GAVE IT TO HIM.
LET... ME... SEE IT, ALEEMA.
PERHAPS IT WILL HELP YOU CONQUER THE DARK SIDE!
PERHAPS IT WILL GIVE YOU AN ADVANTAGE... OVER ME...
THIS IS A SITH TALISMAN... LIKE THE ONES WE FOUND ON ONDERON... BUT MORE POWERFUL.
YOU TAKE A GREAT RISK GIVING IT TO ME.
I AM ENJOYING OUR CONTEST... BUT I'M WINNING TOO EASILY.
PERHAPS I WANT YOU TO BE STRONGER. PERHAPS I'D LIKE TO BE CONQUERED.

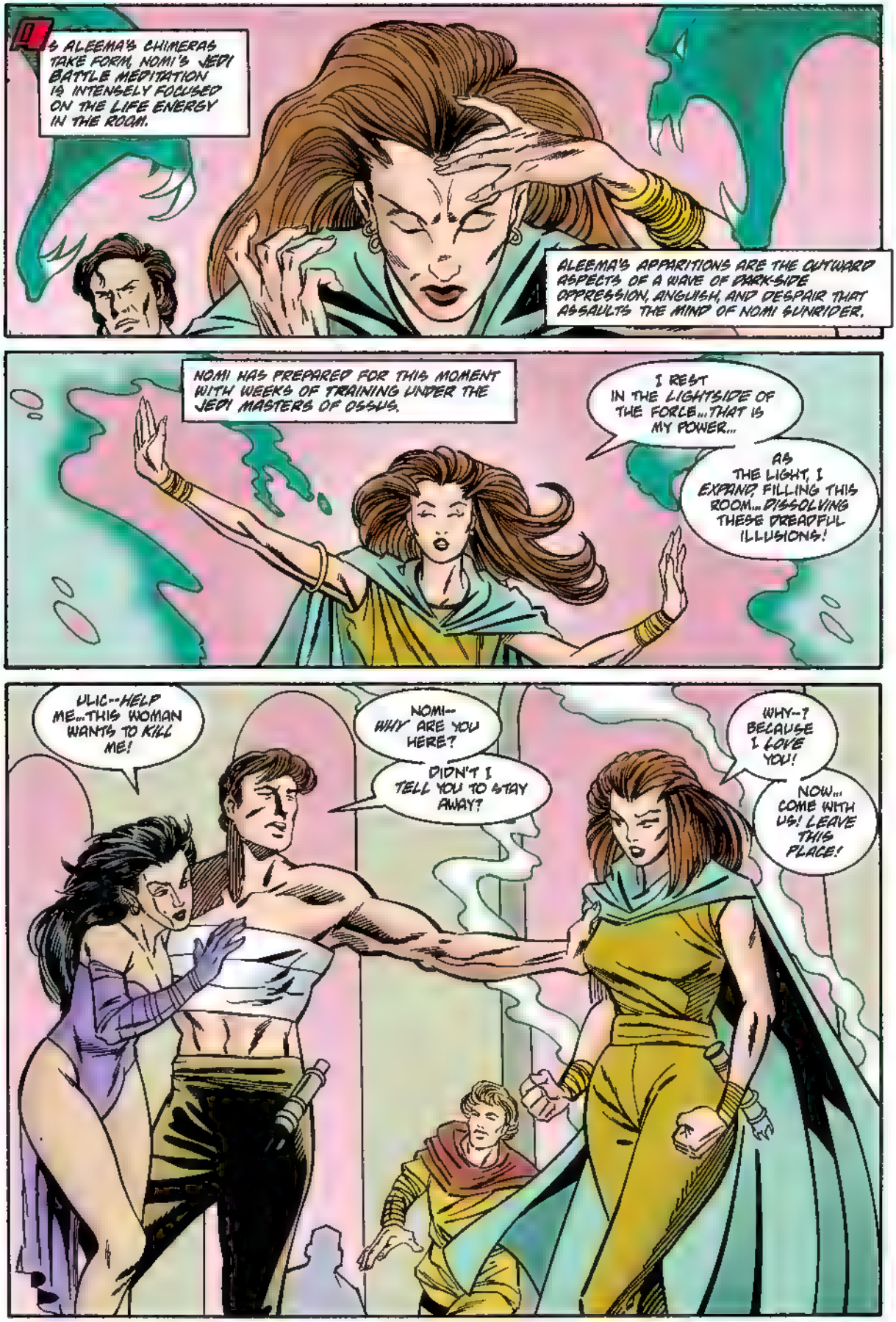

AS THE TALISMAN IN ULIC'S HAND BEGINS TO GLOW, ANOTHER SITH AMULET RESPONDS--
INTERESTING... THEY HAVE A SITH AMULET... THE MATE OF THIS ONE.
THESE USERS OF DARK-SIDE POWER ARE DEFINITELY A THREAT TO MY WORK.
I WON'T LEAVE CINNAGAR UNTIL THEY ARE BOTH DEAD.
SUDDENLY, THE SKIES OVER CINNAGAR RESOUND WITH THUNDER. LOOKING UP, EXAR KUN REALIZES HE MAY NOT HAVE TO DO THE KILLING HIMSELF!
THE ATTACK FORCE FROM OSSUS-- FOUR JEDI ONE-MAN FIGHTERS AND THE ONDERON WARBEAST TRANSPORT HAVE EMERGED FROM HYPERSPACE UNDETECTED!
ALL STATIONS TO STATUS RED! THE CITADEL IS UNDER ATTACK!

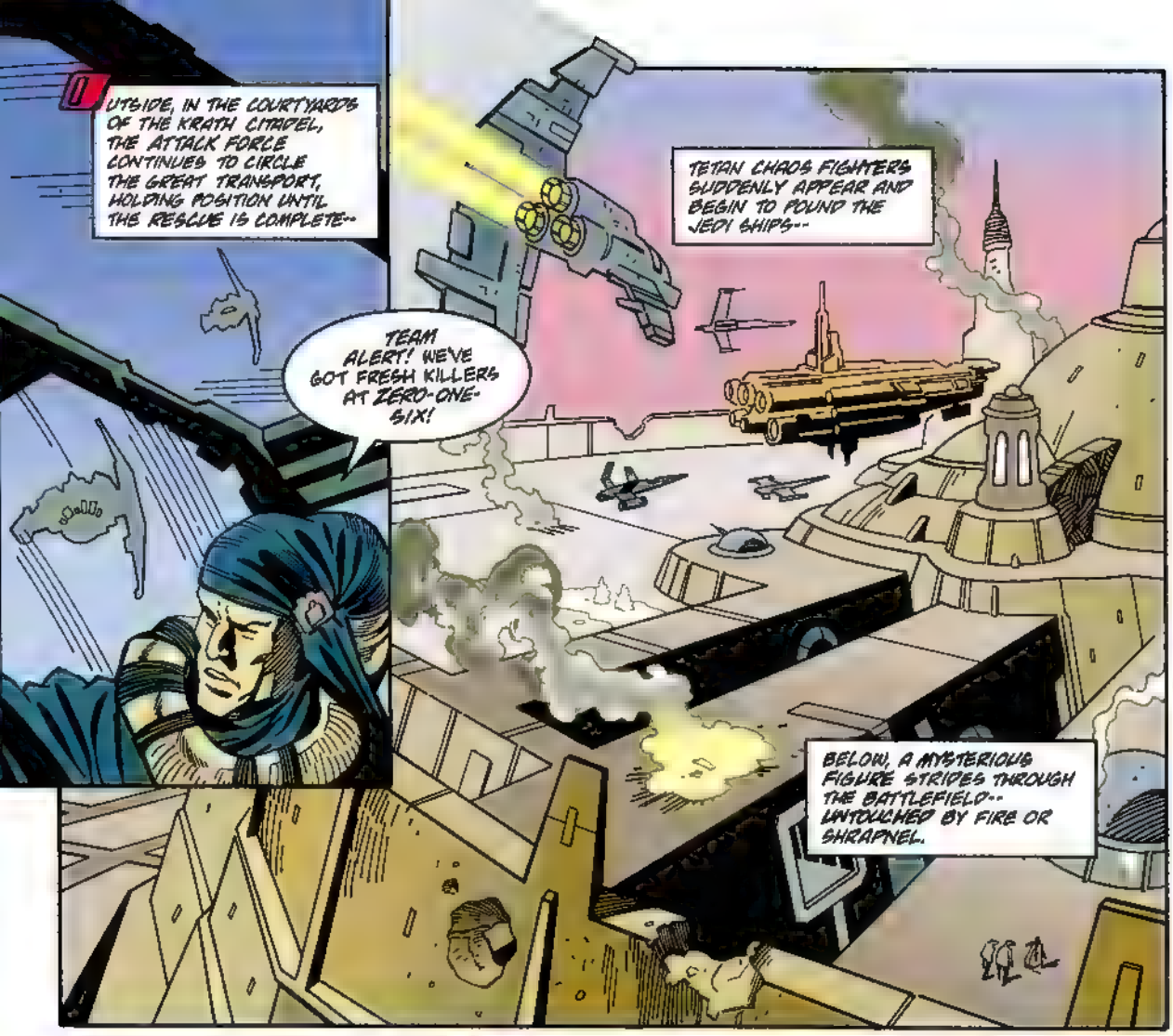

OKAY, TEAM! THE KRATH PALACE IS AT THE END OF THE FAR COURTYARD--
--HIT THE MAIN DEFENSE TOWERS AT ZERO-SIX AND ZERO-NINE!
THE TETAN DEFENDERS ARE CAUGHT OFF GUARD AND THE JEDI ATTACK FORCE SWEEPS INTO THE FORBIDDEN INNER CITY BEHIND THE CITADEL WALLS.
THIS IS JEDI THREE--I'M ON THE ZERO-NINE GUN, OSS.
IT'S ALL YOURS SHOANEB.
SHOANEB CULU SEES ONLY IN THE FORCE, BUT SHE HANDLES HER STINGER FIGHTER FLAWLESSLY--
--AND HER AIM IS ACCURATE AND DEADLY!


LYING CLOSE FORMATION, THE ATTACK FIGHTERS' DEFLECTOR SHIELDS REINFORCE EACH OTHER AND FORM A PROTECTIVE WALL AROUND THE UNSHIELDED WARBEAST TRANSPORT.
THE KRATH PALACE IS STRAIGHT AHEAD!
LET'S GO FIND ULIC!
OSS--THERE'S A GUN EMPLACEMENT PROTECTING THE PALACE! I'M PULLING OUT TO HIT IT!
NO, DACE! STAY IN FORMATION-- DON'T BREAK THE SHIELD ARRAY!
IGNORING OSS WILLUM'S ORDER, DACE TURNS HIS STAR SABER AGAINST THE BIG TERAN GUNS-- WEAPONS THAT WERE REDESIGNED BY ULIC QEL-DROMA!
UH-OH— THIS SHIP IS EVEN MORE SLUGGISH THAN THE ONE I CRASHED.
BUT HARD-WON EXPERIENCE... AND THE FORCE... GIVE DACE THE EDGE HE NEEDS TO TAKE CONTROL OF THE NEW FIGHTER!

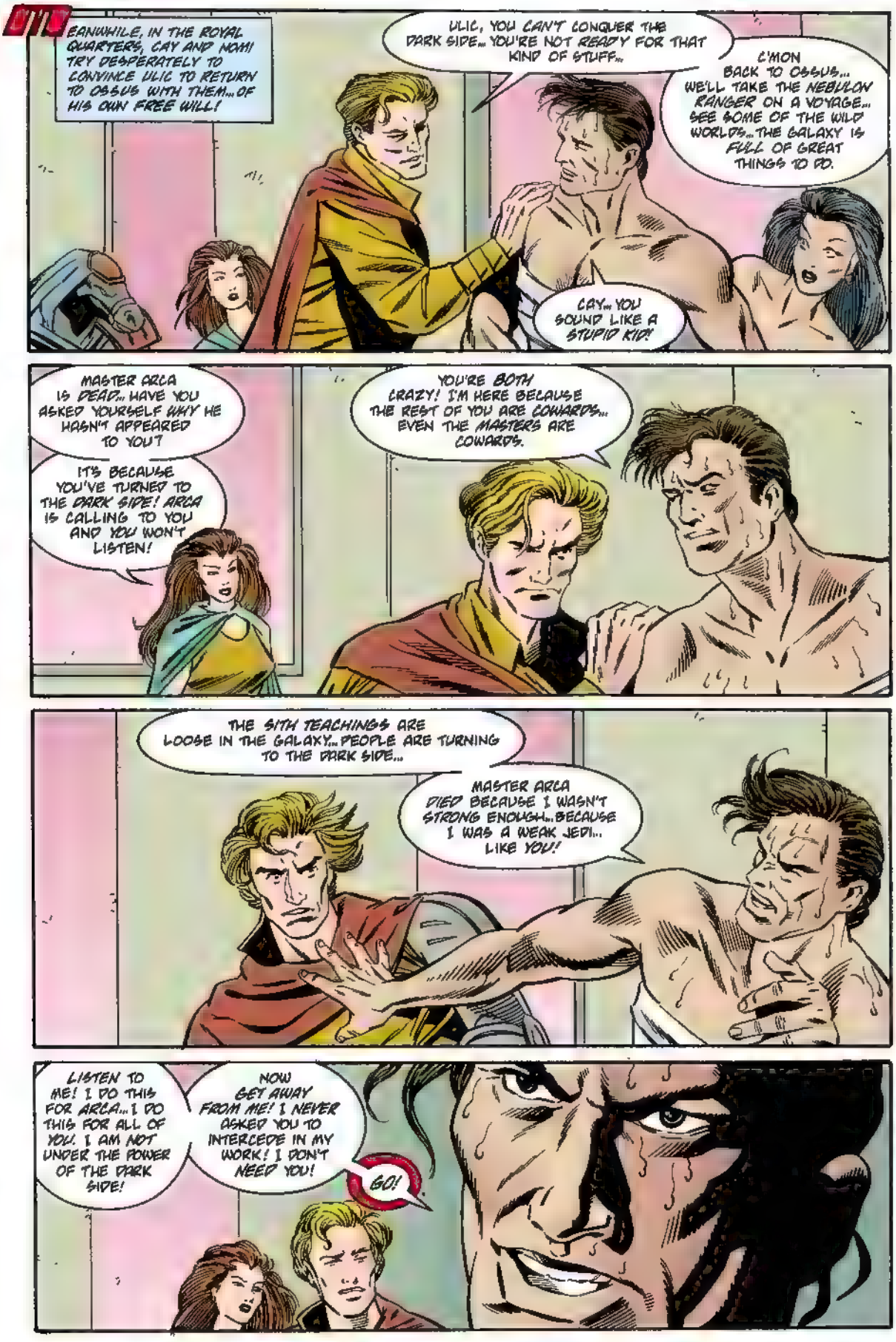

OKAY, DACE...NOT BAD!
NOW LET'S GET BACK IN FORMATION! WE'RE ALMOST THERE!
THE ATTACK FORCE REACHES ITS OBJECTIVE--THE ROYAL RESIDENCE--AND TAKES A STATIONARY POSITION LONG ENOUGH TO DROP THREE ONDERONIAN WARBEASTS!
THE BEAST-RIDER RESCUE IS ORON KIRA'S IDEA--MONTHS AGO, HE USED A SIMILAR PLAN ON ONDERON TO CAPTURE HIS WIFE-TO-BE, PRINCESS GALIA!

KIRA'S BEAST-RIDERS STEER THEIR MOUNTS INTO THE ROYAL QUARTERS-- WITH JEDI COMMANDOS NOMI SUNRIDER, CAY QEL-DROMA AND QRREL TOQ ON BOARD!
CAY...TOQ... TAKE THE GUARDS! I'LL DEAL WITH THE SITH SORCERESS!
CAY-- ARE YOU INSANE?
ULIC! QUICK! GET TO THE WARBEASTS! WE'RE TAKING YOU HOME!
YOU'RE NOT TAKING ANY-BODY ANYWHERE, JEDI WOMAN!
BY THE SITH POWER, I ABJURE YOU!
MAY FEAR CONSUME YOU! MAY YOUR LIFE FORCE SHRIVEL AND DIE!


AS ALEEMA'S CHIMERAS TAKE FORM, NOMI'S JEDI BATTLE MEDITATION IS INTENSELY FOCUSED ON THE LIFE ENERGY IN THE ROOM.
ALEEMA'S APPARITIONS ARE THE OUTWARD ASPECTS OF A WAVE OF DARK-SIDE OPPRESSION, ANGUISH, AND DESPAIR THAT ASSAULTS THE MIND OF NOMI SUNRIDER.
NOMI HAS PREPARED FOR THIS MOMENT WITH WEEKS OF TRAINING UNDER THE JEDI MASTERS OF OSSUS.
I REST IN THE LIGHTSIDE OF THE FORCE...THAT IS MY POWER...
AS THE LIGHT, I EXPAND, FILLING THIS ROOM...DISSOLVING THESE DREADFUL ILLUSIONS!
ULIC--HELP ME...THIS WOMAN WANTS TO KILL ME!
NOMI--WHY ARE YOU HERE?
DIDN'T I TELL YOU TO STAY AWAY?
WHY--? BECAUSE I LOVE YOU!
NOW... COME WITH US! LEAVE THIS PLACE!

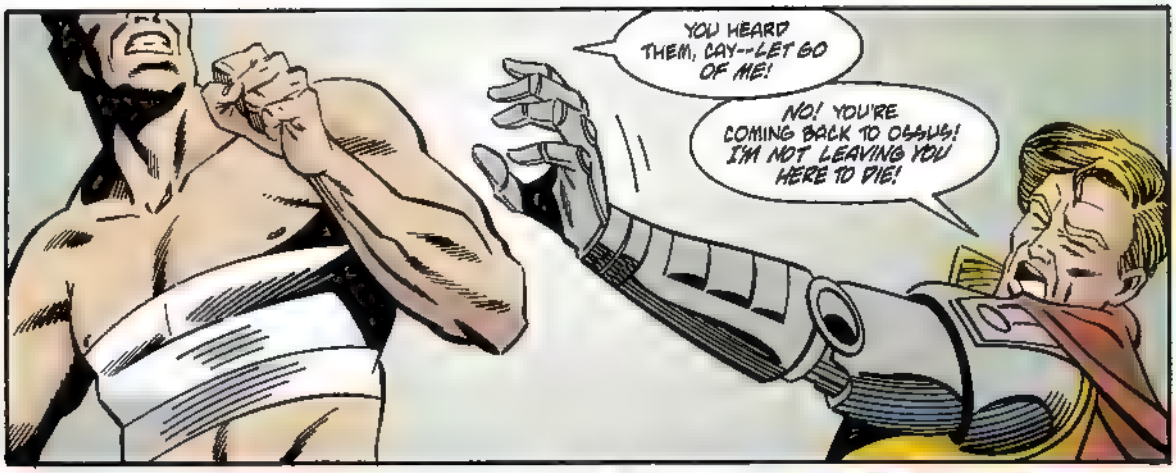

OUTSIDE, IN THE COURTYARDS OF THE KRATH CITADEL, THE ATTACK FORCE CONTINUES TO CIRCLE THE GREAT TRANSPORT, HOLDING POSITION UNTIL THE RESCUE IS COMPLETE--
TEAM ALERT! WE'VE GOT FRESH KILLERS AT ZERO-ONE-SIX!
TETAN CHAOS FIGHTERS SUDDENLY APPEAR AND BEGIN TO POUND THE JEDI SHIPS--
BELOW, A MYSTERIOUS FIGURE STRIDES THROUGH THE BATTLEFIELD-- UNTOUCHED BY FIRE OR SHRAPNEL.

OSS WILLUM SWEEPS WIDE TO TAKE OUT A CHAOS FIGHTER. HIS EYES ARE DRAWN TO THE IMPOSING FIGURE.
THAT MAN IS A JEDI... IMMENSELY STRONG IN THE FORCE! BUT WHAT'S HE DOING HERE?
I HAVE A STRANGE FEELING.. THAT I AM GOING TO KNOW THAT JEDI... AND LEARN FROM HIM.

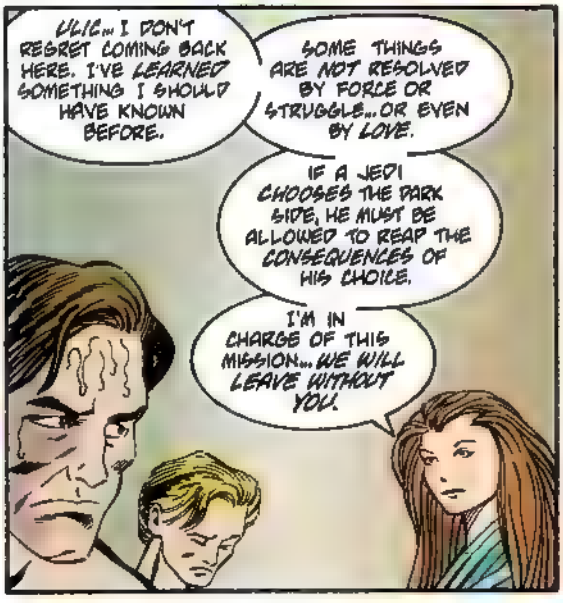

MEANWHILE, IN THE ROYAL QUARTERS, CAY AND NOMI TRY DESPERATELY TO CONVINCE ULIC TO RETURN TO OSSUS WITH THEM... OF HIS OWN FREE WILL!
ULIC, YOU CAN'T CONQUER THE DARK SIDE... YOU'RE NOT READY FOR THAT KIND OF STUFF...
C'MON BACK TO OSSUS... WE'LL TAKE THE NEBULON RANGER ON A VOYAGE... SEE SOME OF THE WILD WORLDS... THE GALAXY IS FULL OF GREAT THINGS TO DO.
CAY... YOU SOUND LIKE A STUPID KID!
MASTER ARCA IS DEAD... HAVE YOU ASKED YOURSELF WHY HE HASN'T APPEARED TO YOU?
IT'S BECAUSE YOU'VE TURNED TO THE DARK SIDE! ARCA IS CALLING TO YOU AND YOU WON'T LISTEN!
YOU'RE BOTH CRAZY! I'M HERE BECAUSE THE REST OF YOU ARE COWARDS... EVEN THE MASTERS ARE COWARDS.
THE SITH TEACHINGS ARE LOOSE IN THE GALAXY... PEOPLE ARE TURNING TO THE DARK SIDE...
MASTER ARCA DIED BECAUSE I WASN'T STRONG ENOUGH... BECAUSE I WAS A WEAK JEDI... LIKE YOU!
LISTEN TO ME! I DO THIS FOR ARCA... I DO THIS FOR ALL OF YOU. I AM NOT UNDER THE POWER OF THE DARK SIDE!
NOW GET AWAY FROM ME! I NEVER ASKED YOU TO INTERCEDE IN MY WORK! I DON'T NEED YOU!
GO!

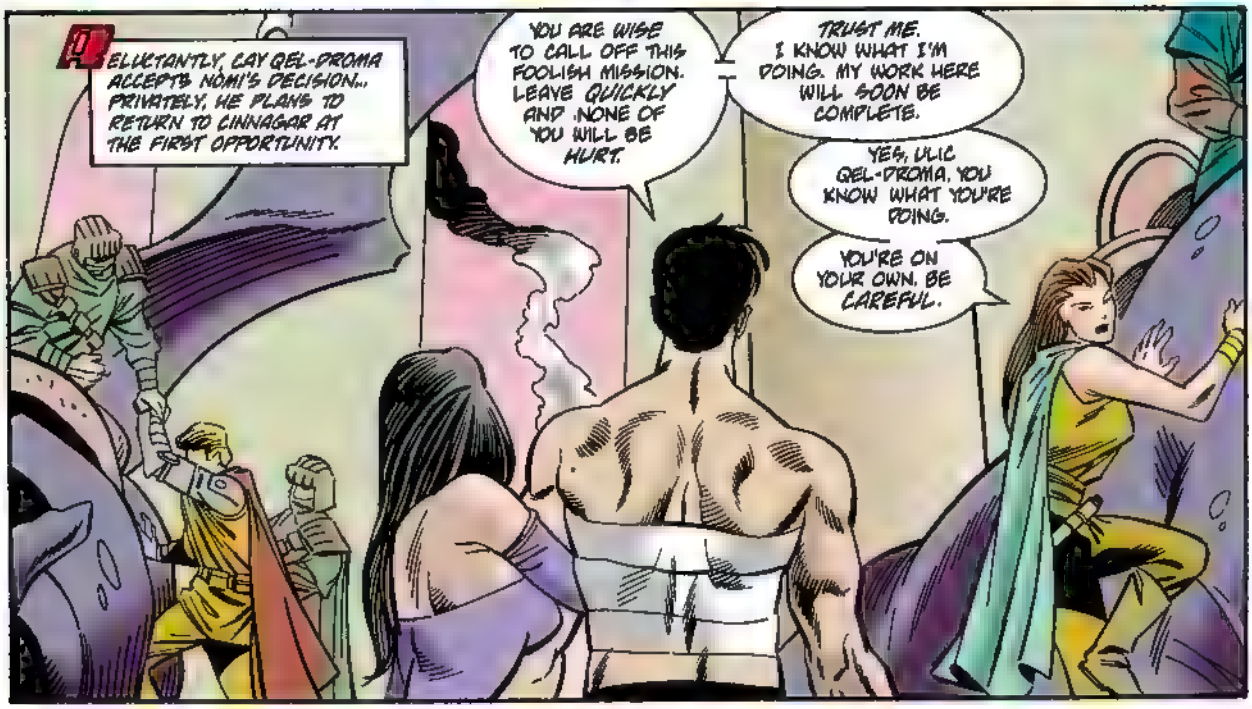
YOU'RE NOT YOURSELF, ULIC. THE SITH POISON HAS HURT YOU--ANYBODY CAN SEE ANGER HAS GOT HOLD OF YOU!
ULIC... TURN TO THE LIGHT... LET YOUR MIND REST IN THE FORCE...
YOUR DESTINY IS NOT AMONG THE KRATH... IT IS WITH YOUR FRIENDS!
NOMI, I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING. YOU'RE TRYING TO PUSH ME WITH YOUR BATTLE MEDITATION!
I WON'T HAVE IT!
I WON'T HAVE IT!
I SAID BACK OFF!
WATCH IT-- HE'S USIN' A SITH AMULET! THEY'RE DEADLY!
I GOT HIM-- GRAB THE AMULET!
BROTHER-- WE AREN'T GOING TO ARGUE WITH YOU-- WE'RE TAKIN' YOU BACK TO OSSUS!

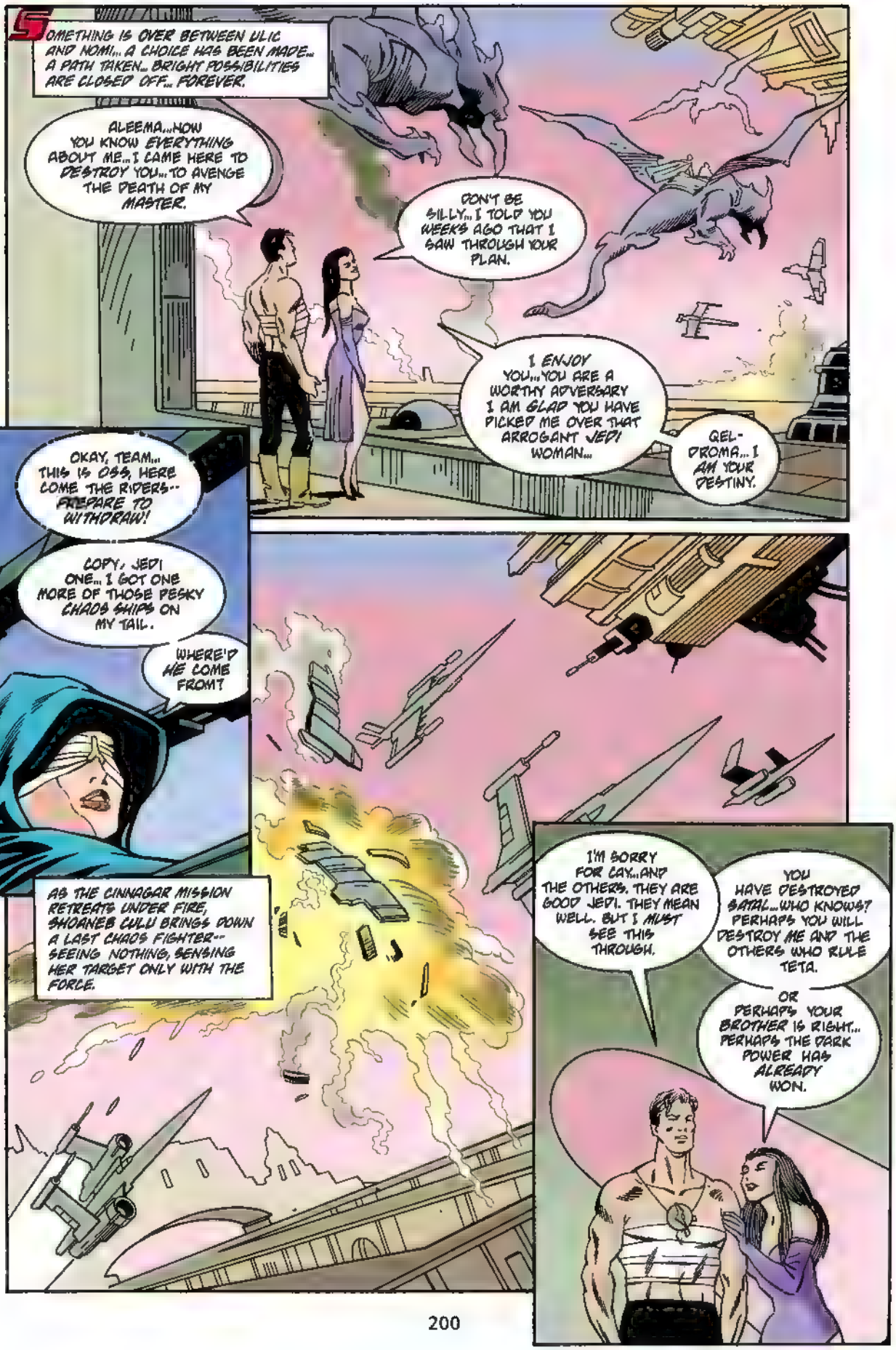
ME AN' TOQ ARE USIN' THE FORCE TO HOLD HIM--
GET THE BEASTS READY, ORON!
WE'RE READY! STRAP HIM TO THE BACK OF THRASHER!
WAIT! LISTEN TO ME!
WE'RE LEAVING ULIC HERE!
WHAT? LEAVE HIM? ARE YOU NUTS?
LEAVING HIM HERE WILL BE A DEATH SENTENCE.
CAY.. YOU KNOW WHAT THE MASTERS TOLD US--
ULIC WILL COME BY HIS OWN CHOICE OR NOT AT ALL.
THAT IS THE JEDI WAY!
THAT'S IT THEN? ALL THE FIGHTIN' FOR NOTHING?
NOMI'S RIGHT. I HATE TO ADMIT IT, BUT SHE'S RIGHT.
NO...NO.. SHE'S WRONG! THIS IS MY BROTHER SHE'S TOSSIN' TO THE DARK SIDE!


YOU HEARD THEM, CAY--LET GO OF ME!
NO! YOU'RE COMING BACK TO OSSUS! I'M NOT LEAVING YOU HERE TO DIE!

C'MON, CAY. YOU WERE THERE WHEN THE MASTERS SPOKE--!
NOOO! CAN'T ANY OF YOU UNDERSTAND? THE DARK POWER ALREADY HAS HIM! I CAN'T LEAVE ULIC!

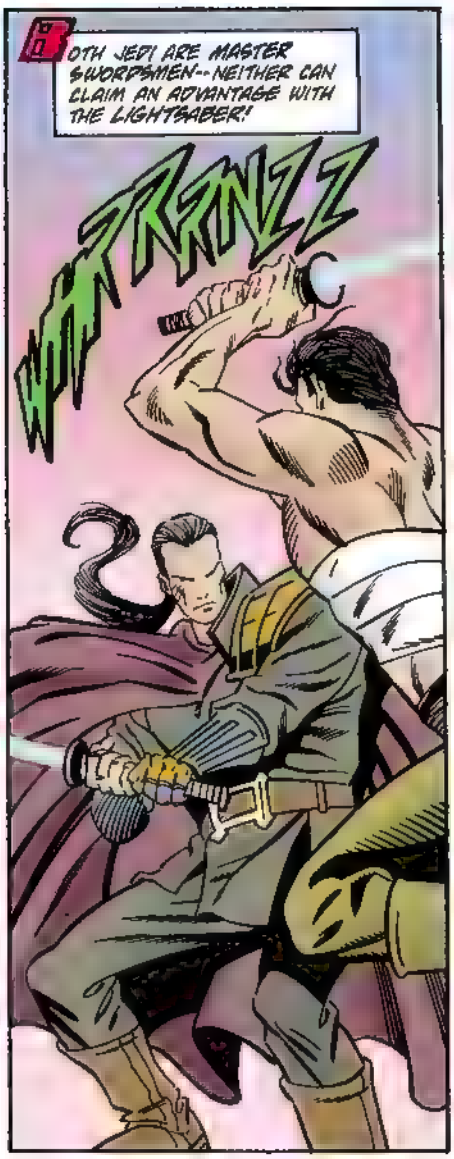

ULIC... I DON'T REGRET COMING BACK HERE. I'VE LEARNED SOMETHING I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BEFORE.
SOME THINGS ARE NOT RESOLVED BY FORCE OR STRUGGLE...OR EVEN BY LOVE.
IF A JEDI CHOOSES THE DARK SIDE, HE MUST BE ALLOWED TO REAP THE CONSEQUENCES OF HIS CHOICE.
I'M IN CHARGE OF THIS MISSION... WE WILL LEAVE WITHOUT YOU.


RELUCTANTLY, CAY QEL-DROMA ACCEPTS NOMI'S DECISION... PRIVATELY, HE PLANS TO RETURN TO CINNAGAR AT THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY.
YOU ARE WISE TO CALL OFF THIS FOOLISH MISSION. LEAVE QUICKLY AND NONE OF YOU WILL BE HURT.
TRUST ME. I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING. MY WORK HERE WILL SOON BE COMPLETE.
YES, ULIC QEL-DROMA. YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING.
YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN. BE CAREFUL.


SOMETHING IS OVER BETWEEN ULIC AND NOMI... A CHOICE HAS BEEN MADE... A PATH TAKEN... BRIGHT POSSIBILITIES ARE CLOSED OFF... FOREVER.
ALEEMA...NOW YOU KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT ME...I CAME HERE TO DESTROY YOU...TO AVENGE THE DEATH OF MY MASTER.
DON'T BE SILLY... I TOLD YOU WEEKS AGO THAT I SAW THROUGH YOUR PLAN.
I ENJOY YOU...YOU ARE A WORTHY ADVERSARY I AM GLAD YOU HAVE PICKED ME OVER THAT ARROGANT JEDI WOMAN...
QEL-DROMA...I AM YOUR DESTINY.
OKAY, TEAM... THIS IS OSS, HERE COME THE RIDERS-- PREPARE TO WITHDRAW!
COPY, JEDI ONE... I GOT ONE MORE OF THOSE PESKY CHAOS SHIPS ON MY TAIL.
WHERE'D HE COME FROM?
AS THE CINNAGAR MISSION RETREATS UNDER FIRE, SHOANEB CULU BRINGS DOWN A LAST CHAOS FIGHTER-- SEEING NOTHING, SENSING HER TARGET ONLY WITH THE FORCE.
I'M SORRY FOR CAY...AND THE OTHERS. THEY ARE GOOD JEDI. THEY MEAN WELL. BUT I MUST SEE THIS THROUGH.
YOU HAVE DESTROYED SATAL...WHO KNOWS? PERHAPS YOU WILL DESTROY ME AND THE OTHERS WHO RULE TETA.
OR PERHAPS YOUR BROTHER IS RIGHT... PERHAPS THE DARK POWER HAS ALREADY WON.

AS ULIC AND ALEEMA GIVE IN TO DARK DESIRE... ANOTHER JEDI APPEARS WITHOUT WARNING...
MY ENEMIES...
I AM EXAR KUN.
FACING THE SUDDEN INTRUSION, ALEEMA IS RELIEVED TO FIND HER SITH MAGIC IS STILL INTACT.
ANOTHER OF YOUR JEDI KNIGHTS? BUT THERE IS A GREAT DARKNESS ON THIS ONE!
THIS MUST BE THE SITH PRETENDER FREEDON NADD WARNED YOU ABOUT!
PRETENDER! NADD ONLY TAUGHT YOU THE BEGINNINGS OF SITH POWER, WOMAN--
BUT I HAVE LEARNED EVERYTHING!

AS FOR YOU, GEL-DROMA...YOU ARE A JEDI WHO IS DELUDING HIMSELF.
THE MOMENT YOU REALIZE THE DARK SIDE IS YOUR TRUE POWER, YOU WILL BECOME A THREAT TO MY WORK!
IT IS YOU WHO ARE THE DARK JEDI--NOT I...YOU'VE MADE A FATAL MISTAKE COMING HERE!


BOTH JEDI ARE MASTER SWORDSMEN--NEITHER CAN CLAIM AN ADVANTAGE WITH THE LIGHTSABER!
TRRNZZ

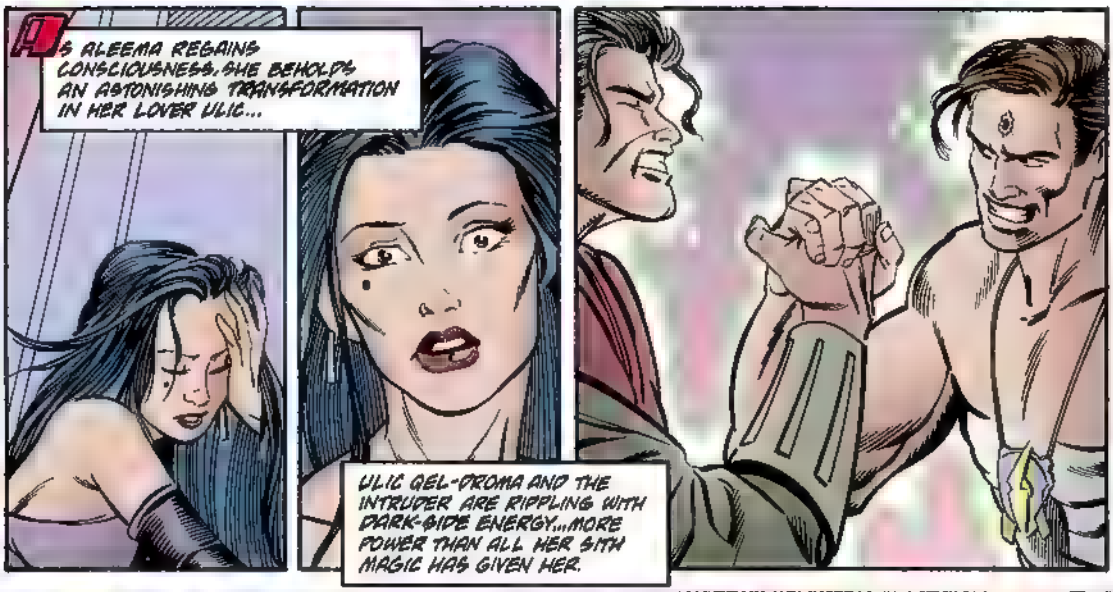
AS ULIC PARRIES KUN'S SAVAGE THRUSTS, THE SITH AMULETS BEGIN TO GLOW, THEIR INNER WORKINGS AWAKENING FROM A THOUSAND-YEAR SLEEP...
ZZRRNNZZ

WHAT--! THE AMULETS!
THE LIGHT FROM THE ANCIENT TALISMAN EXPANDS...AND THEN JOINS INTO ONE BRIGHTNESS, ENVELOPING THE TWO WARRIORS IN MYSTERIOUS ENERGIES...

THIS IS A MOMENT CONCEIVED IN THE LONG-FORGOTTEN TIME WHEN THE SITH WERE A MIGHTY RACE OF MAGICIANS...
...A TIME WHEN THE SITH PEOPLE WERE BEING DRIVEN TO EXTINCTION BY THE JEDI KNIGHTS AND THE ARMIES OF THE GALACTIC REPUBLIC.
A TIME WHEN SITH MAGIC LEARNED HOW TO CONSTRUCT AMULETS TO CARRY A MESSAGE DOWN THROUGH THE CENTURIES...
A MESSAGE FROM THEIR REIGNING DARK LORD OF THE SITH!
CEASE!

YOU OF THE FUTURE... HEAR ME WELL.
THE TWO AMULETS ARE JOINED. THE TIME IS UPON YOU.
YOU HAVE CHOSEN...NOW YOU ARE THE CHOSEN.
WHO ARE YOU?
I KNOW HIM... I'VE SEEN HIS MUMMIFIED REMAINS...ON KORRIBAN!
IT MATTERS NOT WHO I AM. MY POWER IS ALL THAT CONCERNS YOU.
YOU HAVE BOTH FOUND THE AMULETS...AND EACH OTHER...NOW THE POWER OF THESE AMULETS IS JOINED...AND I HAVE COME.
I NOW COMPLETE YOUR INITIATION TO THE POWER OF THE DARK SIDE... SO THAT YOU MAY BRING TO PASS THE GREAT DESTINY FORETOLD...
EXAR KUN, BECAUSE OF YOU, THE SITH WILL NEVER DIE... YOU HAVE RIGHTLY EARNED THE TITLE OF--
DARK LORD OF THE SITH!

THIS OTHER JEDI... ULIC QEL-DROMA... HE TOO HAS TAKEN THE DARK ROAD..
QEL-DROMA WILL BE YOUR FIRST AND FOREMOST APPRENTICE.
BY YOUR FREE CHOICE, BOTH OF YOU HAVE BECOME PART OF THE GRAND DESIGN.
IN MY TIME, EVEN AS THE GALACTIC REPUBLIC BATTLES US TO EXTINCTION, WE NOW SECURE THE FUTURE, WHEN THE SITH WILL TAKE THEIR REVENGE!


AS ALEEMA REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS, SHE BEHOLDS AN ASTONISHING TRANSFORMATION IN HER LOVER ULIC...
ULIC QEL-DROMA AND THE INTRUDER ARE RIPPLING WITH DARK-SIDE ENERGY...MORE POWER THAN ALL HER SITH MAGIC HAS GIVEN HER.

LET IT BE SO, QEL-DROMA...THE ANCIENT SITH HAVE SPOKEN.
TOGETHER WE WILL BRING DOWN THE GALAXY!
YES. LET IT BE SO.

APPROXIMATELY 3,996 YEARS BEFORE THE BATTLE OF YAVIN . . .

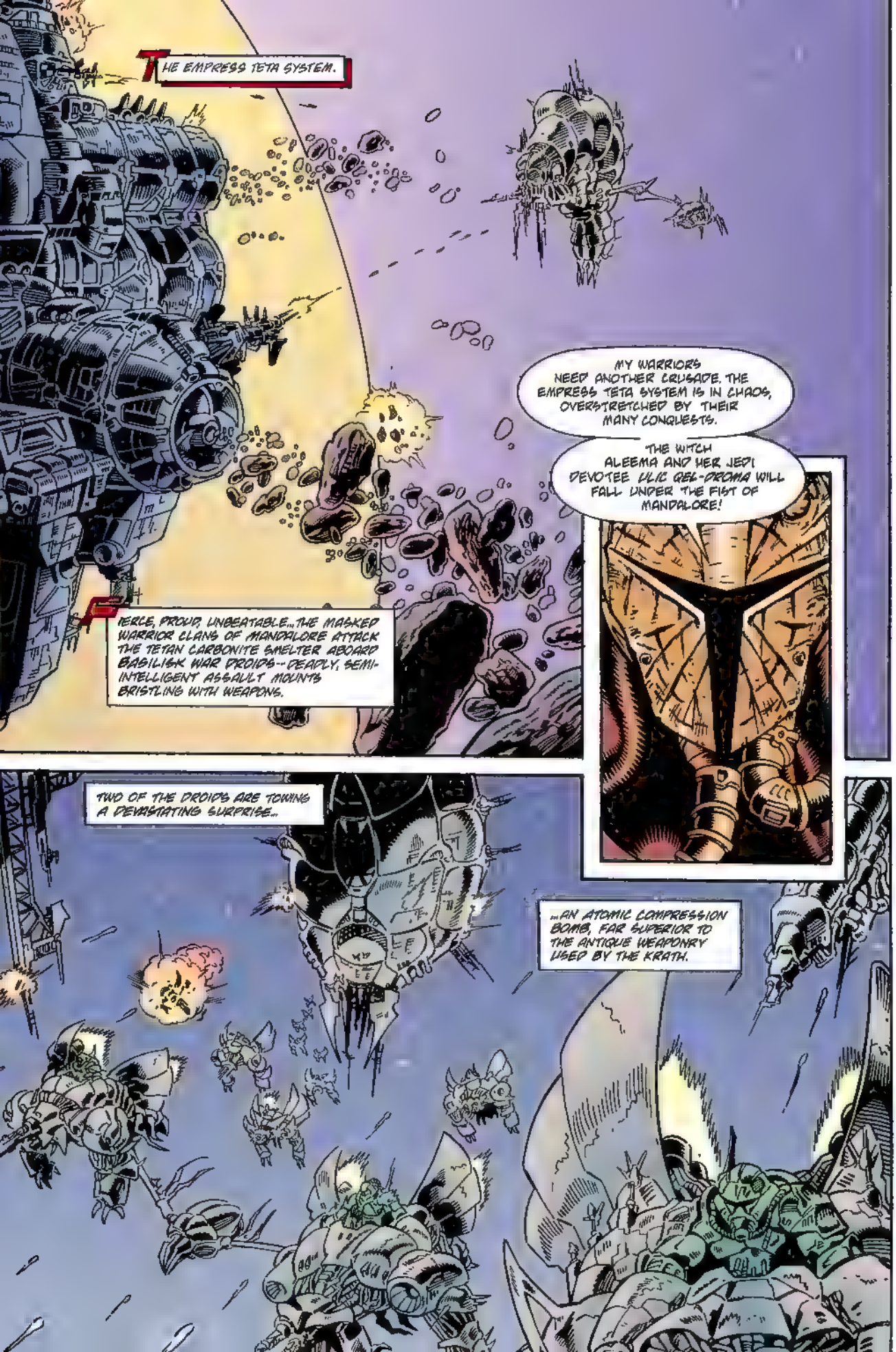
script by Kevin J. Anderson

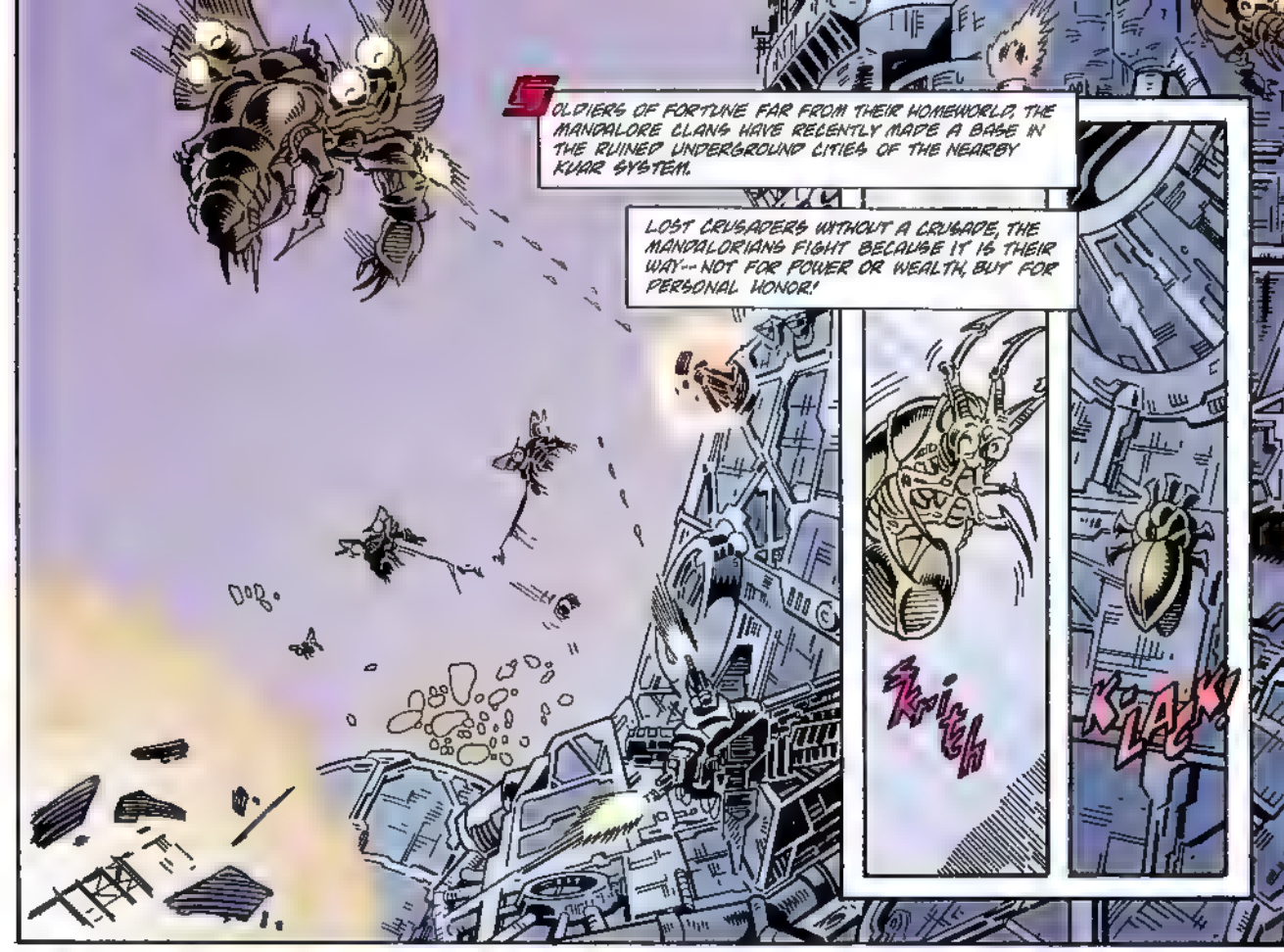
pencils by Dario Carrasco Jr.

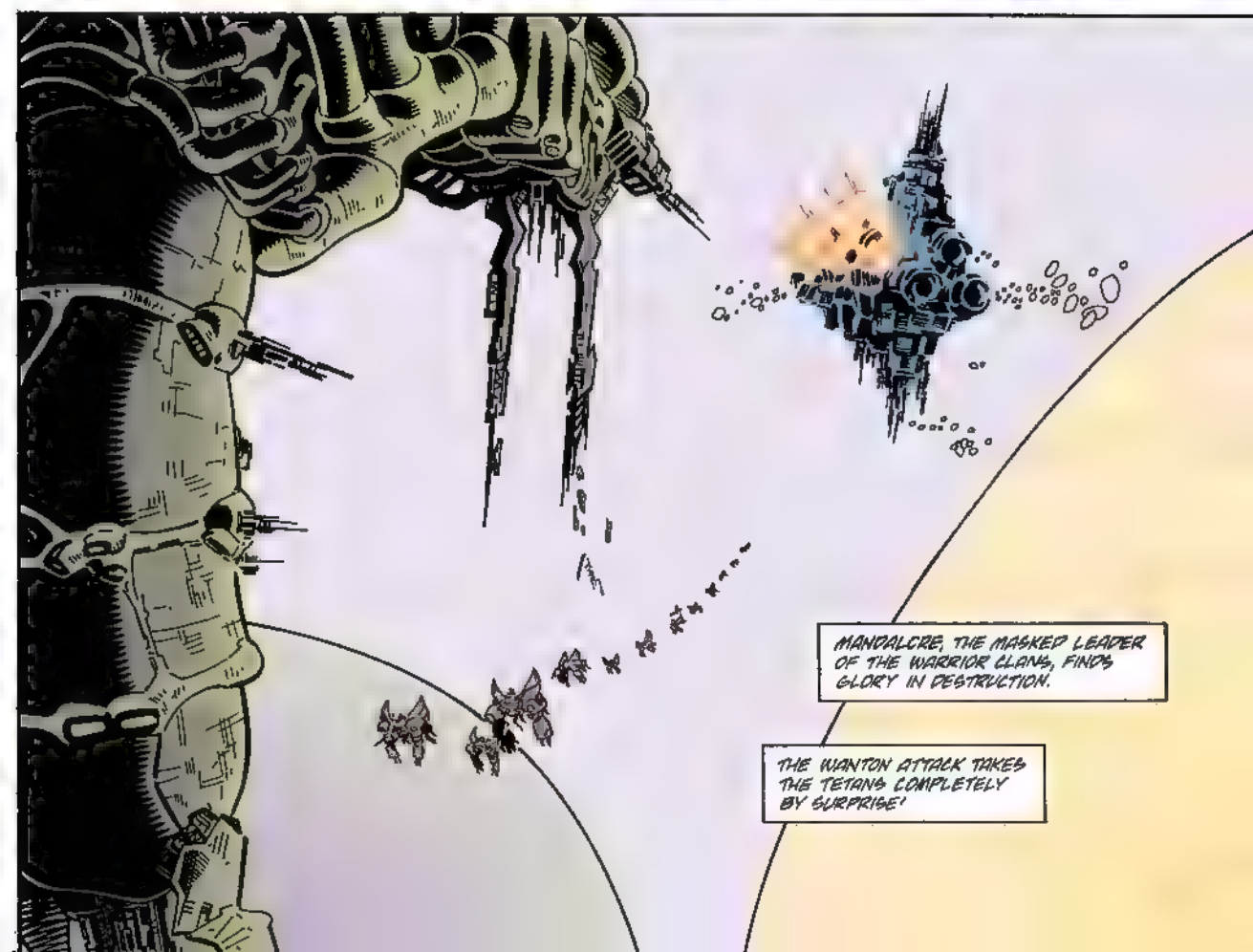
inks by Jordi Ensign, Mark G. Heike, Bill Black, and David Jacob Beckett

colors by Rachelle Menashe and Pamela Rambo

letters by Willie Schubert


THE EMPRESS TETA SYSTEM.
MY WARRIORS NEED ANOTHER CRUSADE. THE EMPRESS TETA SYSTEM IS IN CHAOS, OVERSTRETCHED BY THEIR MANY CONQUESTS.
THE WITCH ALEEMA AND HER JEDI DEVOTEE ULIC QEL-DROMA WILL FALL UNDER THE FIST OF MANDALORE!
FIERCE, PROUD, UNBEATABLE...THE MASKED WARRIOR CLANS OF MANDALORE ATTACK THE TETAN CARBONITE SMELTER ABOARD BASILISK WAR DROIDS--DEADLY, SEMI-INTELLIGENT ASSAULT MOUNTS BRISTLING WITH WEAPONS.
TWO OF THE DROIDS ARE TOWING A DEVASTATING SURPRISE...
...AN ATOMIC COMPRESSION BOMB, FAR SUPERIOR TO THE ANTIQUE WEAPONRY USED BY THE KRATH.


SOLDIERS OF FORTUNE FAR FROM THEIR HOMEWORLD, THE MANDALORE CLANS HAVE RECENTLY MADE A BASE IN THE RUINED UNDERGROUND CITIES OF THE NEARBY KUAR SYSTEM.
LOST CRUSADERS WITHOUT A CRUSADE, THE MANDALORIANS FIGHT BECAUSE IT IS THEIR WAY--NOT FOR POWER OR WEALTH, BUT FOR PERSONAL HONOR!
SKRIEEH
KLAK!


MANDALORE, THE MASKED LEADER OF THE WARRIOR CLANS, FINDS GLORY IN DESTRUCTION.
THE WANTON ATTACK TAKES THE TETANS COMPLETELY BY SURPRISE!

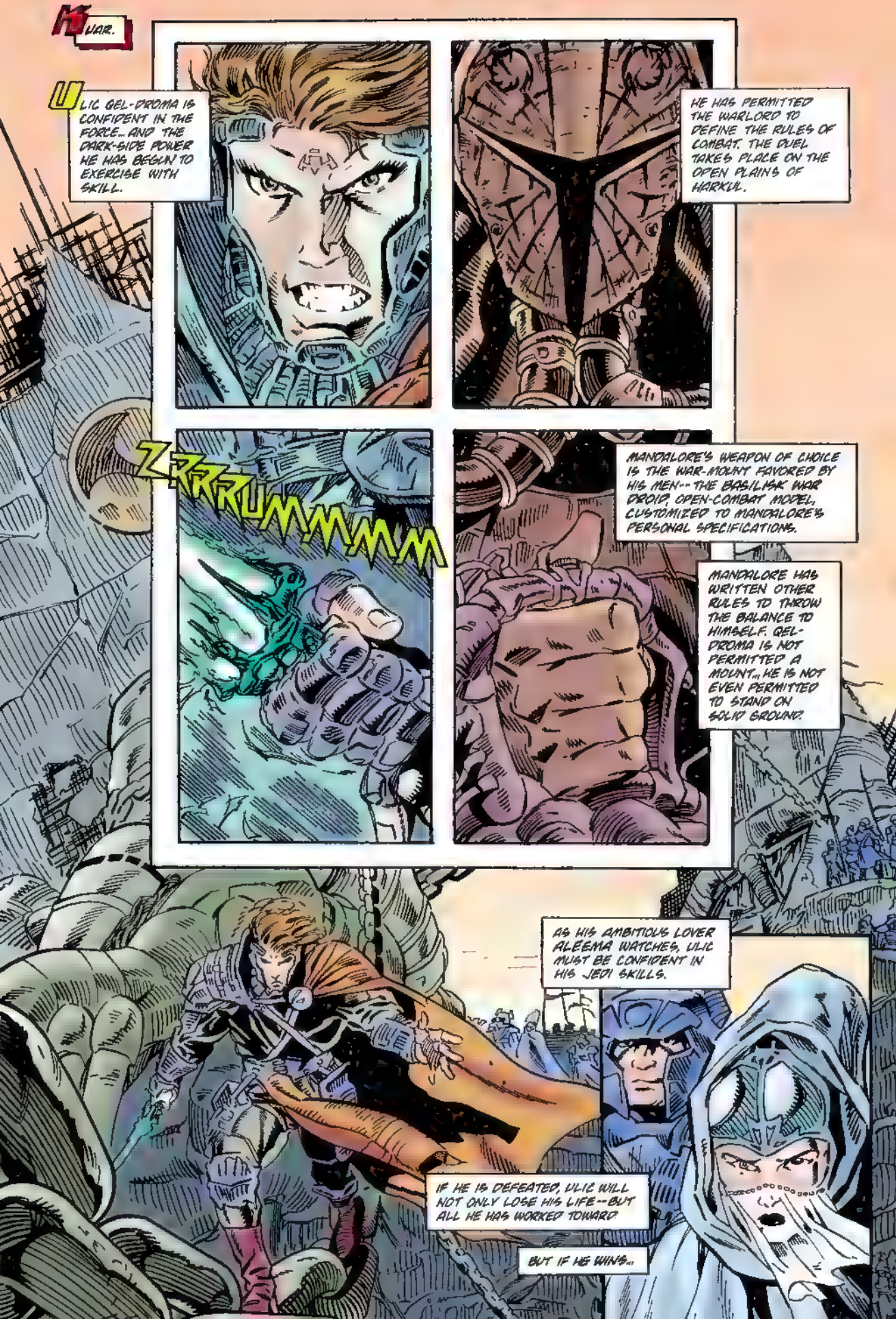
LIC DEL-DROMA HAS MADE ENEMIES IN THE REPUBLIC BECAUSE OF THE PATH HE HAS CHOSEN--BUT THIS UNPROVOKED ASSAULT HAS COME FROM AN UNEXPECTED QUARTER.
IT DOES NOT FIT IN WITH ULIC'S LARGER PLAN.
MANDALORE HAS NOT EVEN MADE DEMANDS! WHAT DOES HE WANT FROM US?
HE WANTS THE SEVEN WORLDS OF TETA. HE WANTS TO CONQUER. I BELIEVE HE FEELS A BURNING NEED EVEN HE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND.

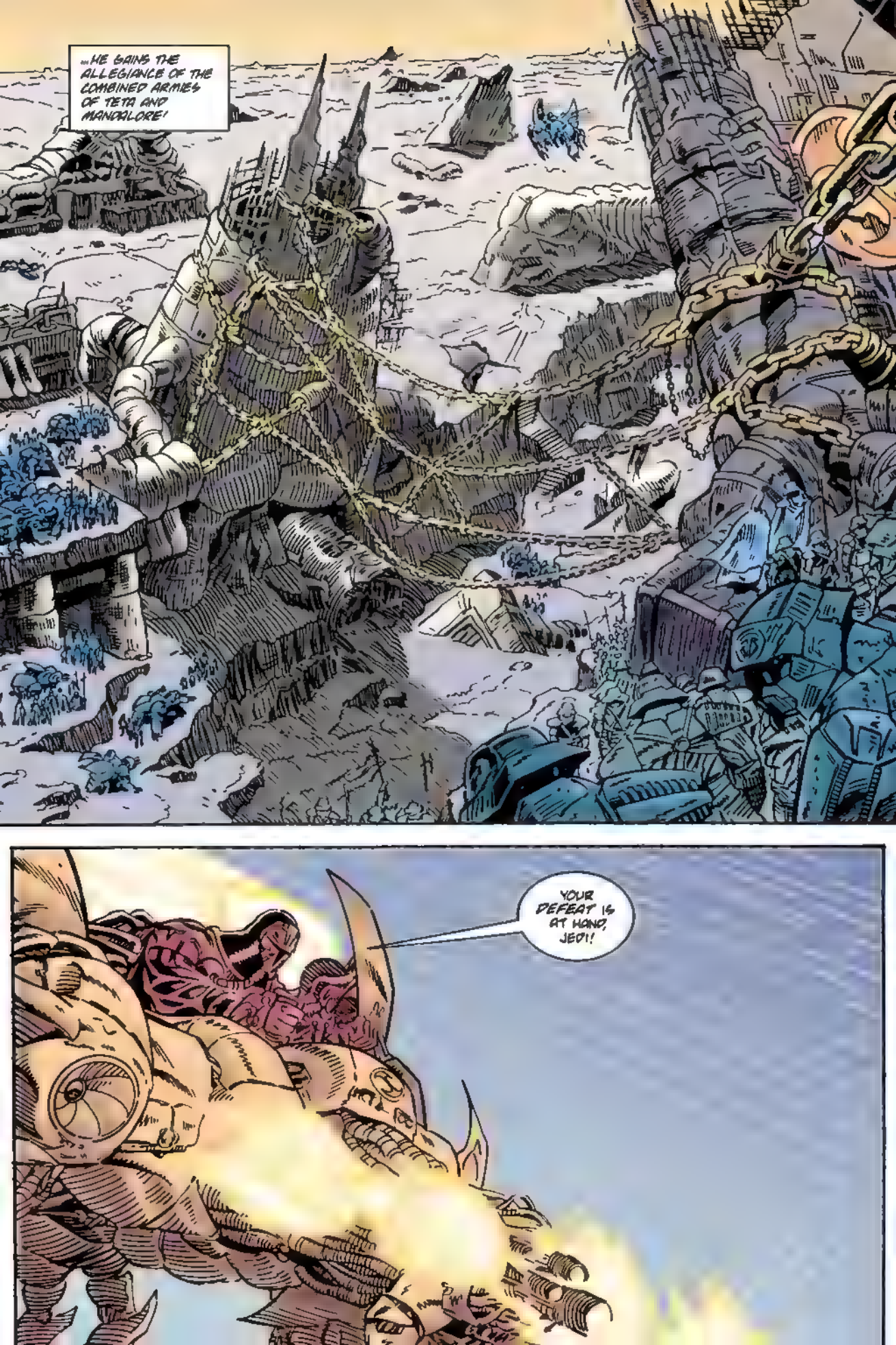
WE REALLY DON'T NEED THIS INTERFERENCE, ALEEMA. I HAVE WORK TO DO, TO CARRY OUT MY PART OF THE BARGAIN WITH EXAR KUN.
OH, MANDALORE KNOWS ABOUT YOU. YOUR REPUTATION HAS SPREAD TO ALL NEIGHBORING SYSTEMS. I IMAGINE HE FEARS YOU...AS I DO, MY LOVE.
THIS ACT WAS JUST TO GRAB YOUR ATTENTION.
VERY WELL...
...CAPTAIN ROOK'S...CONTACT THIS MANDALORE...I WILL GIVE HIM THE TERMS OF HIS SURRENDER.
YES, I KNOW OF YOU, JEDI CARRION.
ARE YOU THE CHAMPION WHO WILL MEET ME ON THE FIELD OF HONOR TO DECIDE THE FATE OF THE SEVEN TETRAN JEWELS?
I'M OFFERING YOU A CHANCE TO DEAL WITH ME SIMPLY, WITH ONE STROKE OF YOUR VAUNTED LIGHTSABER.
MEET ME ON MY OWN WORLD...ON THE PLAINS OF HARKUL, WHERE YOU AND I WILL BATTLE TO THE DEATH.
VERY WELL. I ACCEPT. AND IF I WIN, YOU AND ALL YOUR WARRIORS MUST SERVE ME.
DO YOU AGREE?
IT IS DONE
NONSENSE. MY ARMIES WILL RIP YOU APART UNLESS YOU SURRENDER TO ME AT ONCE.
YOUR WARRIORS STILL FIGHT WITH ANTIQUES. MY CLANS USE ONLY ADVANCED WEAPONS. WHAT DO YOU THINK WILL HAPPEN WHEN YOU ATTACK US?

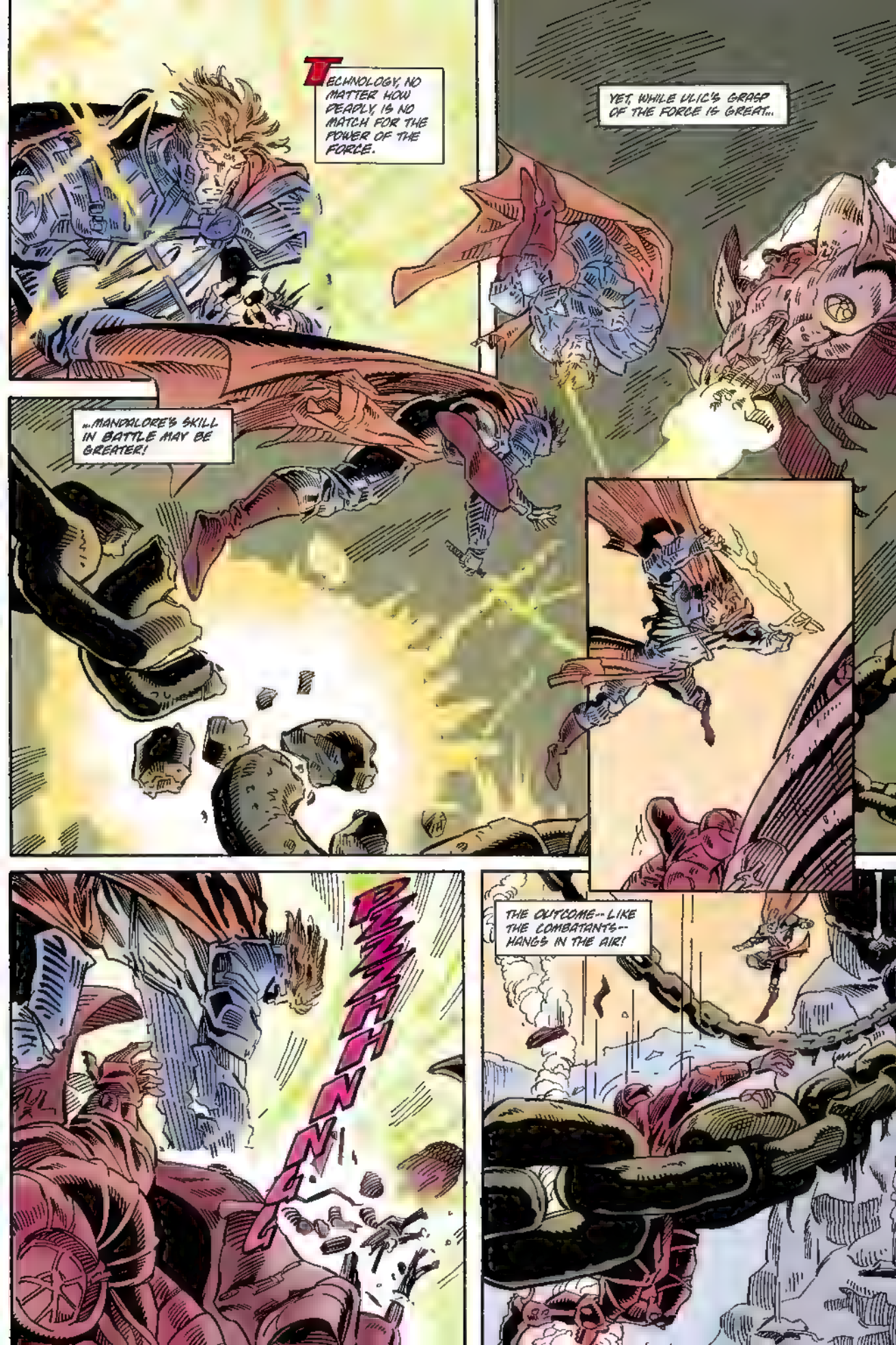
DSSUS.
IN THE PEACEFUL GARDENS OF TALLA, A POWERFUL JEDI HOLDS FORTH, PERSUASIVELY PROCLAIMING A RENEWAL OF THE JEDI WAY.
MY JEDI BROTHERS... NO ONE HONORS OUR BELOVED MASTERS MORE THAN I... INDEED, I WAS APPRENTICED TO THE GREAT TEACHER VOOD-SIOSK BAAS.
MY MASTER HAS BEEN RESPECTED FOR CENTURIES AMONG OUR FRATERNITY... AS A GREAT HISTORIAN AND GATEKEEPER OF THE TEDRYN HOLOCRON.
ARE YOU TELLING US YOU'RE ONE OF THE GREAT ONES, LIKE MASTER VOOD?
MY GREATNESS IS FOR OTHERS TO JUDGE, JEDI LIKE YOURSELF WILL TAKE MY MEASURE, LAY QEL-DROMA.
ALL I CAN TELL YOU IS THAT I HAVE BEEN FORTUNATE TO UNEARTH FORGOTTEN JEDI SECRETS... THINGS THAT WERE KNOWN THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO... AND POWERS THAT CAME NATURALLY TO THE JEDI KNIGHTS OF FORGOTTEN TIMES.
AS A TRUE JEDI, I DO NOT INTEND TO HOARD THIS KNOWLEDGE AND KEEP THESE FORCE ABILITIES TO MYSELF.
I WANT TO SHARE THEM, WITH ANY TRUE JEDI WHO WILL JOIN ME.
SOUNDS GREAT BUT YOU'RE ASKING US TO LEAVE OUR MASTERS AND MAKE YOU OUR TEACHER.
BUT YOU'RE STILL AN APPRENTICE, EXAR MASTER VOOD HAS NOT DECLARED YOU A JEDI MASTER.
I AM WHAT I AM, CRADO. I MUST CONFESS, HOWEVER, THAT SOME OF THE OLD JEDI... EVEN MASTER VOOD... ARE SUSPICIOUS OF MY NEW TEACHING.
THEY ARE, PERHAPS, LOSING TOUCH WITH THE TIMES.
DIDN'T MASTER ARCA LET THE DARK SITH MAGIC ESCAPE FROM HIS GRASP?
I SENSE WEAKNESS, INDECISION...

YOU'RE RIGHT. ARCA FAILED MISERABLY ON ONDERON. I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT. HE WAS A GREAT JEDI.
I WAS THERE, ZONA. WE WERE ATTACKED BY AN AVATAR-- A FALLEN JEDI NAMED FREEDON NADD.
MASTER ARCA DIED BRAVELY! HE SACRIFICED HIMSELF TO PROTECT OTHER JEDI.
EXACTLY. AND WHAT HAS BECOME OF THIS FREEDON NADD THAT OUTFOXED OUR GREAT MASTERS?
I TOOK CARE OF HIM PERSONALLY. FINISHED HIM.
REALLY, EXAR? YOU?
YES. VERY TRUE. AND I WENT ABOUT MY BUSINESS WITHOUT ANY HELP FROM ARCA...OR HIS JEDI, STUDENTS.
I FOUND THE SPIRIT OF THIS DREADED DARK JEDI, FREEDON NADD... I SPOKE TO HIM, LEARNED THINGS, LEARNED HIS SCHEMES, LEARNED WHERE SITH ARTIFACTS WERE HIDDEN...
...THEN I BATTLED HIM... AND WON. FREEDON NADD IS NO MORE.
YES. I HUNTED DOWN THE EVIL SPIRIT.
I WENT TO ONDERON, BUT ARCA DID NOT APPROVE OF MY PLAN TO FINISH WHAT HE WAS UNABLE TO ACCOMPLISH.
ARCA DIDN'T LIKE YOU AT ALL, EXAR KUN.
WHAT WAS HE AFRAID OF?

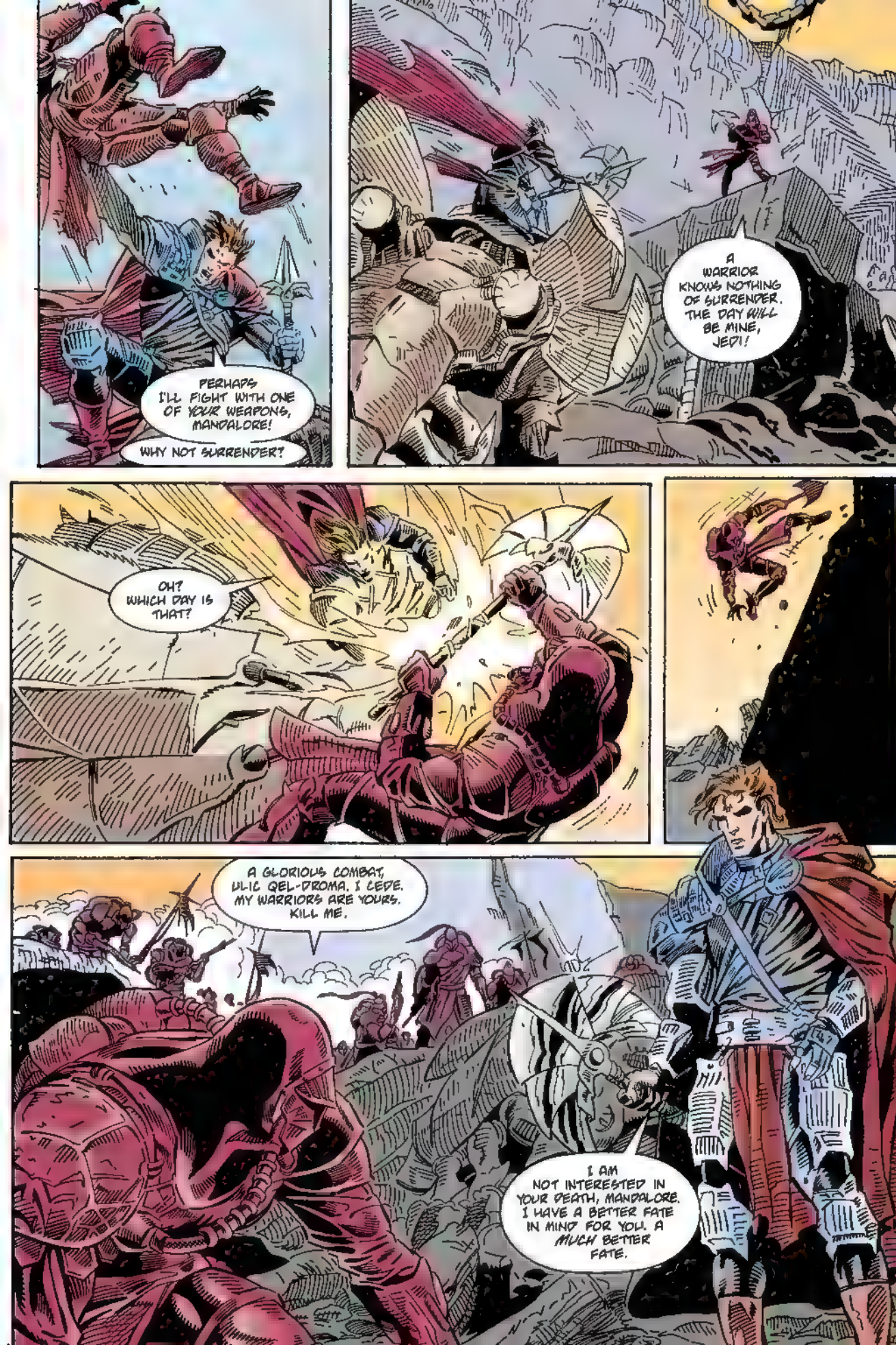
PROVE IT, EXAR KUN. WHY SHOULD WE BELIEVE YOUR BOASTS?
SEE FOR YOURSELF. THIS ANCIENT JEDI AMULET TELLS ALL.
JEDI AMULETS? I'VE NEVER HEARD OF THEM.
OF COURSE YOU HAVEN'T. AS I SAID, SOME THINGS WERE FORGOTTEN. SOME THINGS WERE SUPPRESSED AND FORBIDDEN.
THE MASTERS CONSIDERED SUCH AMULETS TOO POWERFUL FOR YOUNG JEDI KNIGHTS TO USE.
BUT I AM NOT CONTENT TO LEAVE THINGS HIDDEN. I AM NOT CONTENT TO LET GREAT AND USEFUL SECRETS GATHER DUST.
IF YOU ARE LIKE ME... IF YOU CARE ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE JEDI... YOU WILL JOIN ME IN MY EXPLORATION OF THE MOST ANCIENT, MOST WISE, AND MOST POWERFUL JEDI SECRETS-- THEN WE CAN CHANGE THE GALAXY!

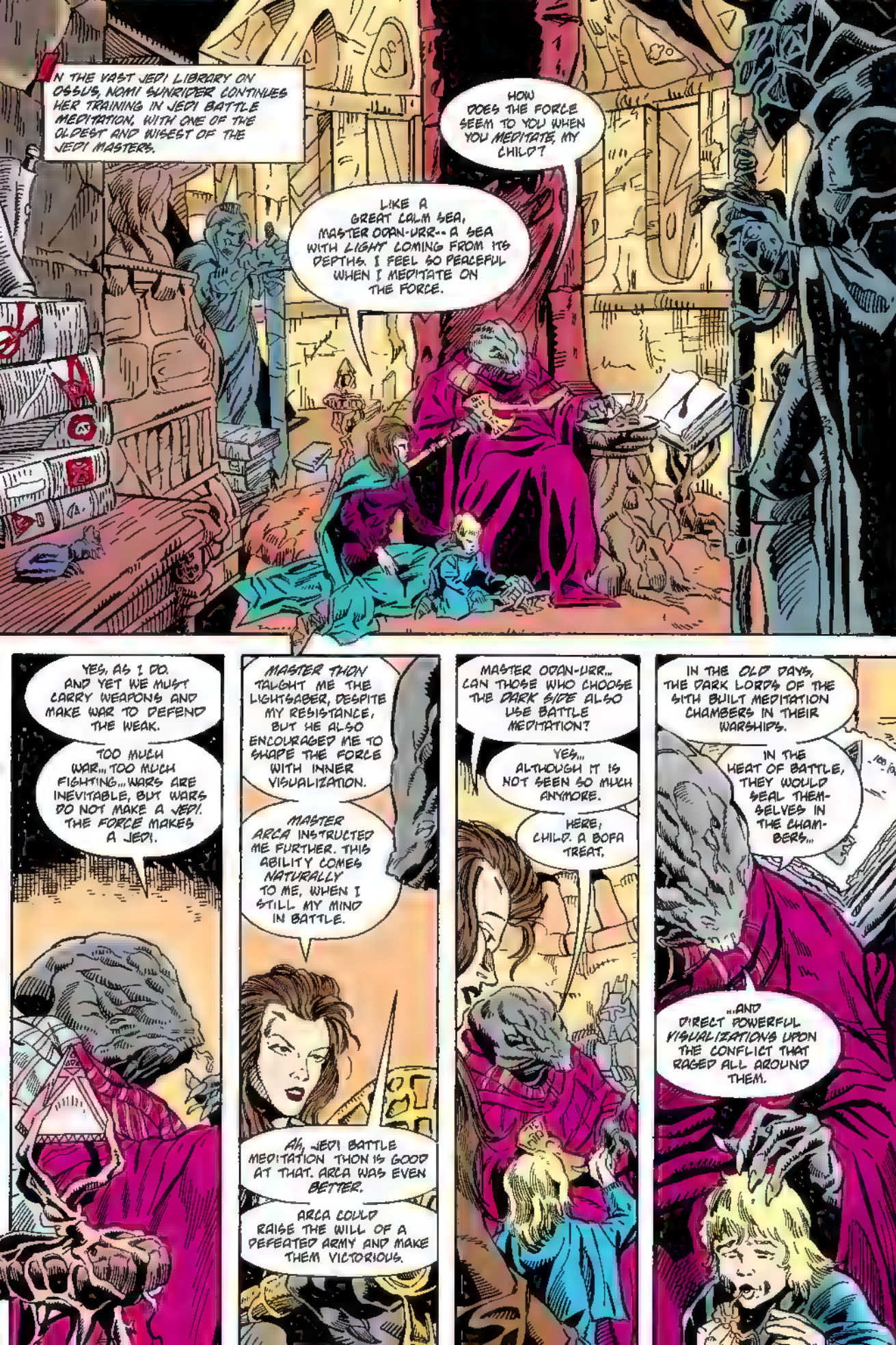

ULIC GEL-DROMA IS CONFIDENT IN THE FORCE... AND THE DARK-SIDE POWER HE HAS BEGUN TO EXERCISE WITH SKILL.
HE HAS PERMITTED THE WARLORD TO DEFINE THE RULES OF COMBAT. THE DUEL TAKES PLACE ON THE OPEN PLAINS OF HARKUL.
ZRRRUMMMM
MANDALORE'S WEAPON OF CHOICE IS THE WAR-MOUNT FAVORED BY HIS MEN--THE BASILISK WAR DROID, OPEN-COMBAT MODEL, CUSTOMIZED TO MANDALORE'S PERSONAL SPECIFICATIONS.
MANDALORE HAS WRITTEN OTHER RULES TO THROW THE BALANCE TO HIMSELF. GEL-DROMA IS NOT PERMITTED A MOUNT... HE IS NOT EVEN PERMITTED TO STAND ON SOLID GROUND.
AS HIS AMBITIOUS LOVER ALEEMA WATCHES, ULIC MUST BE CONFIDENT IN HIS JEDI SKILLS.
IF HE IS DEFEATED, ULIC WILL NOT ONLY LOSE HIS LIFE--BUT ALL HE HAS WORKED TOWARD.
BUT IF HE WINS...


...HE GAINS THE ALLEGIANCE OF THE COMBINED ARMIES OF TETA AND MANDALORE!
YOUR DEFEAT IS AT HAND, JEDI!


TECHNOLOGY, NO MATTER HOW DEADLY, IS NO MATCH FOR THE POWER OF THE FORCE.
YET, WHILE ULIC'S GRASP OF THE FORCE IS GREAT...
...MANDALORE'S SKILL IN BATTLE MAY BE GREATER!
ZNNHHNNG!
THE OUTCOME--LIKE THE COMBATANTS--HANGS IN THE AIR!

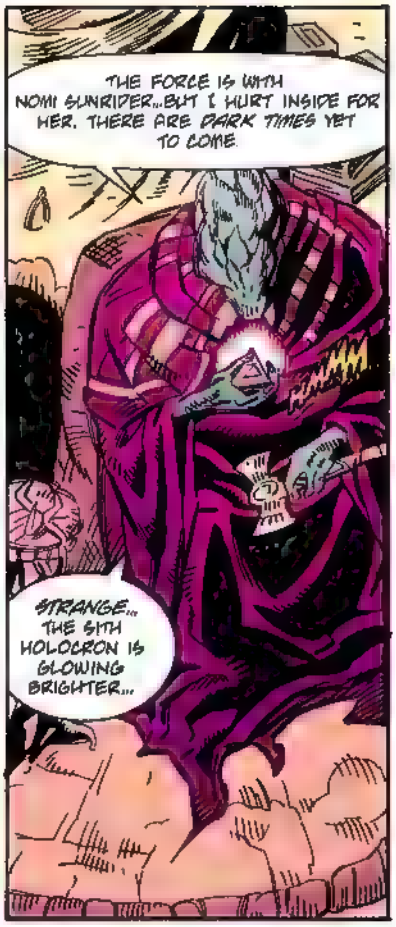
ULIC WAITS WARILY FOR MANDALORE'S NEXT MOVE
YOU FIGHT UNFAIRLY, QEL-DROMA! PUT AWAY YOUR BLOODTHIRSTY WEAPON... USE THIS, THE SIMPLE WEAPON OF MY FOREFATHERS
I CAN DEFEAT YOU, REGARDLESS OF THE WEAPON, MANDALORE.
HNNGKK!
SOME SPECTATORS GASP... OTHERS CHEER. ALL ARE BREATHLESS AT THE DISPLAY OF FEROCIOUS POWER...
...BUT NONE MORE SO THAN A HAPLESS MANDALORIAN WARRIOR WHO HAS DRIFTED TOO CLOSE TO THE BATTLEFIELD!


PERHAPS I'LL FIGHT WITH ONE OF YOUR WEAPONS, MANDALORE!
WHY NOT SURRENDER?
A WARRIOR KNOWS NOTHING OF SURRENDER. THE DAY WILL BE MINE, JEDI!
OH? WHICH DAY IS THAT?
A GLORIOUS COMBAT, ULIC QEL-DROMA. I CEDE. MY WARRIORS ARE YOURS. KILL ME.
I AM NOT INTERESTED IN YOUR DEATH, MANDALORE. I HAVE A BETTER FATE IN MIND FOR YOU. A MUCH BETTER FATE.


N THE VAST JEDI LIBRARY ON OSSUS, NOMI SUNRIDER CONTINUES HER TRAINING IN JEDI BATTLE MEDITATION, WITH ONE OF THE OLDEST AND WISEST OF THE JEDI MASTERS.
HOW DOES THE FORCE SEEM TO YOU WHEN YOU MEDITATE, MY CHILD?
LIKE A GREAT CALM SEA, MASTER ODAN-URR-- A SEA WITH LIGHT COMING FROM ITS DEPTHS. I FEEL SO PEACEFUL WHEN I MEDITATE ON THE FORCE.
YES, AS I DO. AND YET WE MUST CARRY WEAPONS AND MAKE WAR TO DEFEND THE WEAK.
TOO MUCH WAR... TOO MUCH FIGHTING... WARS ARE INEVITABLE, BUT WARS DO NOT MAKE A JEDI. THE FORCE MAKES A JEDI.
MASTER THON TAUGHT ME THE LIGHTSABER, DESPITE MY RESISTANCE, BUT HE ALSO ENCOURAGED ME TO SHAPE THE FORCE WITH INNER VISUALIZATION.
MASTER ARCA INSTRUCTED ME FURTHER. THIS ABILITY COMES NATURALLY TO ME, WHEN I STILL MY MIND IN BATTLE.
AH, JEDI BATTLE MEDITATION THON IS GOOD AT THAT. ARCA WAS EVEN BETTER.
ARCA COULD RAISE THE WILL OF A DEFEATED ARMY AND MAKE THEM VICTORIOUS.
MASTER ODAN-URR... CAN THOSE WHO CHOOSE THE DARK SIDE ALSO USE BATTLE MEDITATION?
YES... ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT SEEN SO MUCH ANYMORE.
HERE, CHILD. A BOFA TREAT.
IN THE OLD DAYS, THE DARK LORDS OF THE SITH BUILT MEDITATION CHAMBERS IN THEIR WARSHIPS.
IN THE HEAT OF BATTLE, THEY WOULD SEAL THEMSELVES IN THE CHAMBERS...
...AND DIRECT POWERFUL VISUALIZATIONS UPON THE CONFLICT THAT RAGED ALL AROUND THEM.

HOW... WOULD I DEAL WITH SUCH AN OPPONENT?
SOMETHING LIKE THAT HAPPENED ON ONDERON... I WAS STRUCK DOWN.
AH! THEN YOU MUST UNDERSTAND. DO NOT PANIC WHEN YOU FEEL THE DARK-SIDE ENERGIES TURNED AGAINST YOU.
YOU MUST USE YOUR JEDI ABILITIES TO TAKE POWER AWAY FROM AN OPPONENT, RATHER THAN TO INFLICT HARM.
THIS TECHNIQUE BLINDS YOUR ENEMY TO THE FORCE WITH A WALL OF LIGHT, A PERMANENT BLOCKAGE IF YOU SO CHOOSE... RENDERING HIM UNABLE TO USE JEDI POWERS.
IT SOUNDS DIFFICULT, MASTER ODAN-URR--AND FRIGHTENING.
IT IS DIFFICULT
AND IT IS THE MOST DEVASTATING ATTACK POSSIBLE USING THE POWERS OF THE LIGHT SIDE. TO BLOCK A JEDI FROM THE FORCE--EVEN A DARK JEDI--IS A TERRIBLE THING.
IN THE DAYS OF THE FALL OF THE SITH EMPIRE, I MYSELF BECAME ADEPT AT SUCH POWERS.
THAT WAS WHEN WE FOUGHT THE LAST OF THE DARK LORDS... WHEN THE JEDI AND THE REPUBLIC DROVE THE SITH TO EXTINCTION.
THAT WAS WHEN I CAPTURED THIS DARK HOLOCRON, THE ONLY SITH HOLOCRON, AS FAR AS ANYBODY KNOWS.
LOCKED WITHIN ITS RECESSES, ACCESSIBLE ONLY TO A DARK LORD OF THE SITH, ARE THE FORGOTTEN HISTORIES AND LORE, DATING BACK A HUNDRED THOUSAND YEARS AND MORE.
SUCH KNOWLEDGE IS DANGEROUS, AND WE MUST KEEP IT PROTECTED HERE ON OSSUS.

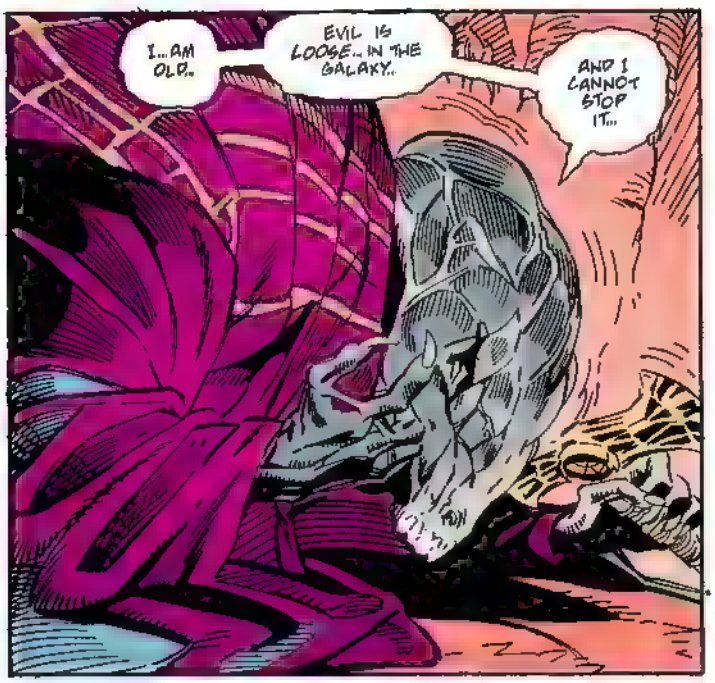
EXAR KUN HAS LEFT THE YOUNG JEDI KNIGHTS TO DEBATE HIS POWERFUL WORDS AMONG THEMSELVES, WITHDRAWING TO THE GREAT LIBRARY, HE SEEKS SOMETHING VERY PRECIOUS...
THANK YOU, MASTER ODAN-URR. I WILL PONDER THE NEW TECHNIQUE YOU HAVE TAUGHT ME.
YOU ARE A GOOD AND STRONG JEDI, NOMI SUNRIDER. AND THIS LITTLE ONE...SOMEDAY SHE WILL BE A JEDI MASTER, WITH MANY APPRENTICES


THE FORCE IS WITH NOMI SUNRIDER...BUT I HURT INSIDE FOR HER. THERE ARE DARK TIMES YET TO COME.
HMMM
STRANGE... THE SITH HOLOCRON IS GLOWING BRIGHTER...

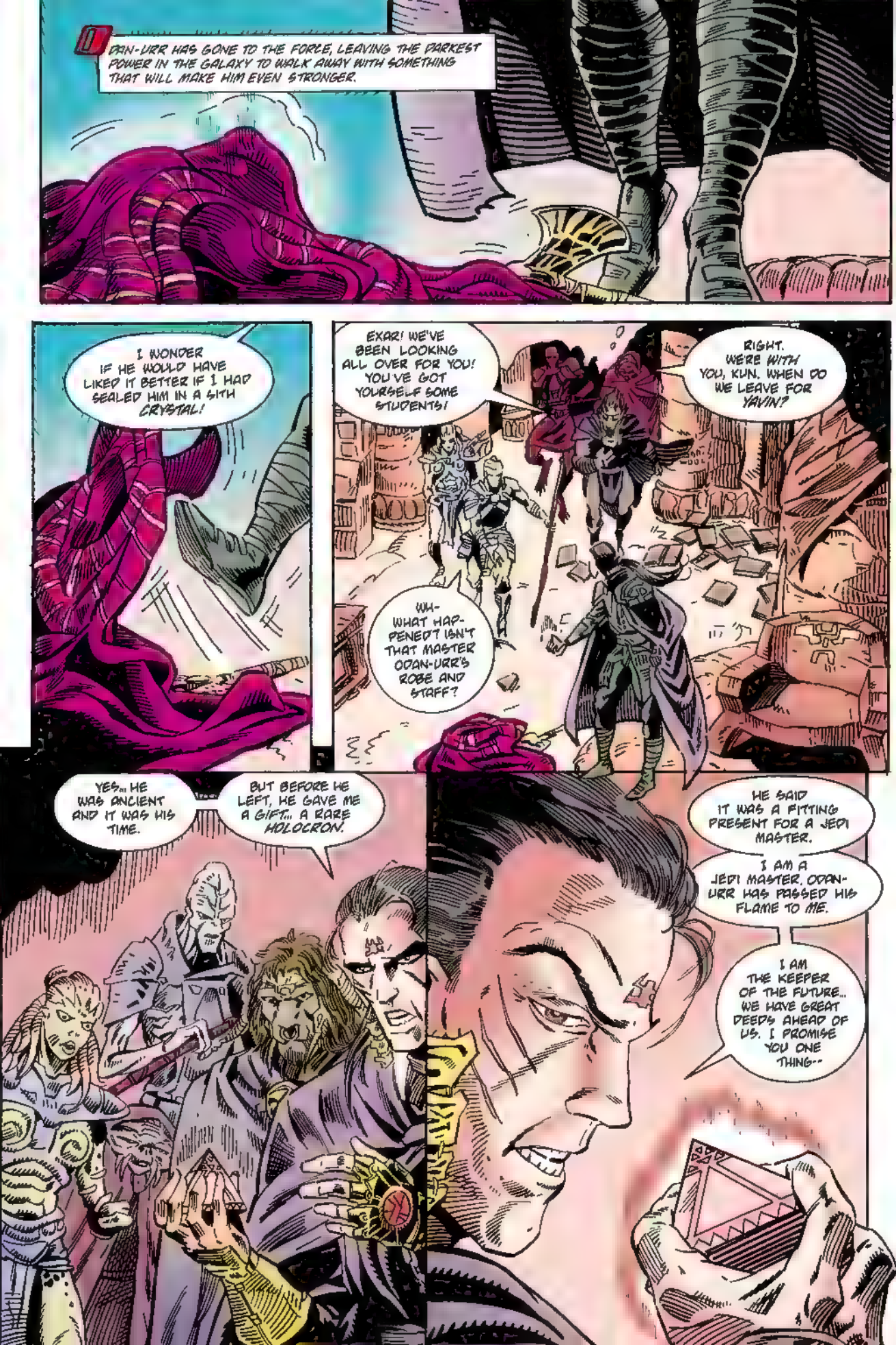
IT IS NOT STRANGE, OLD ONE...

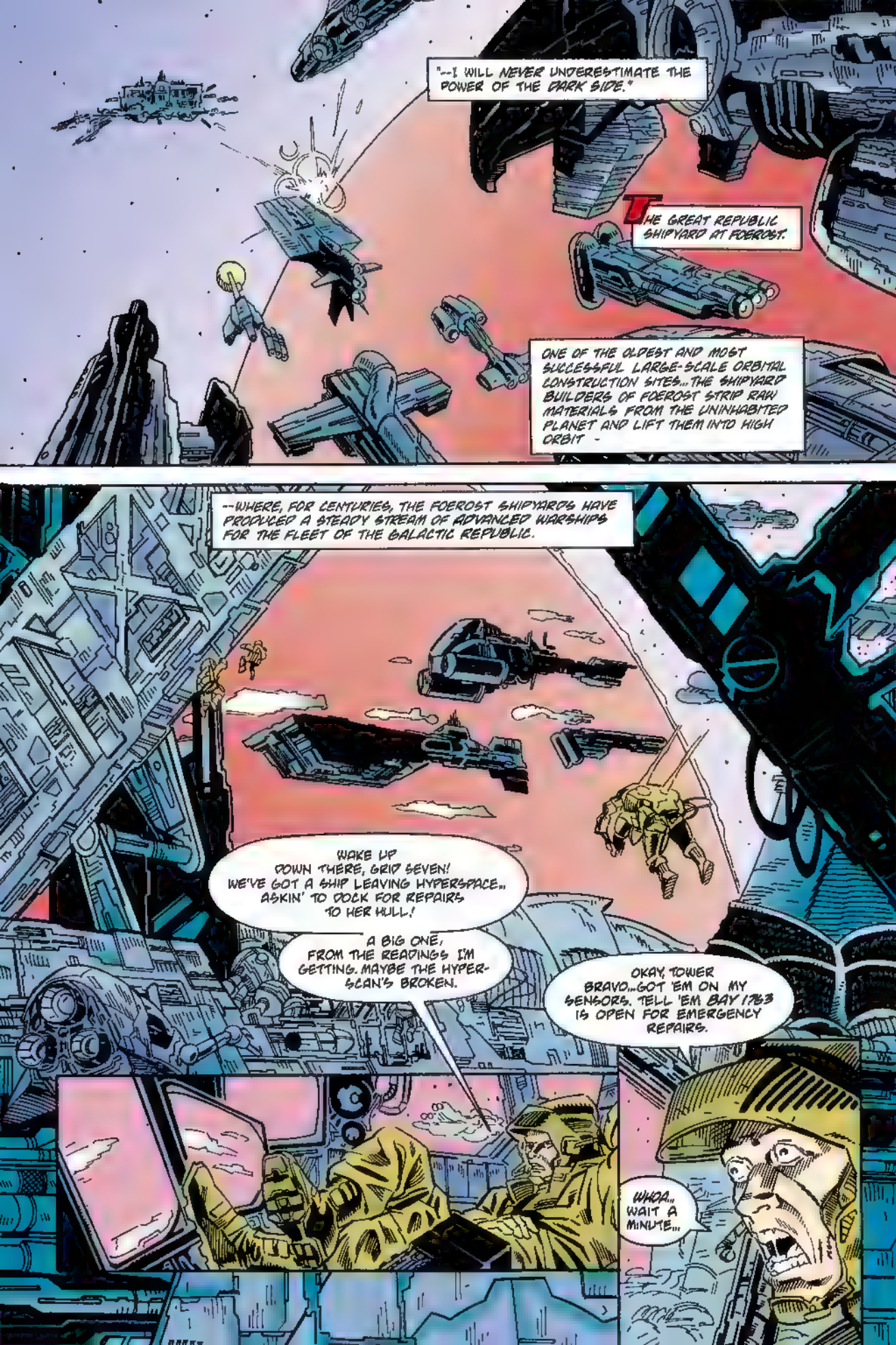
...IT IS SIMPLY BEING CALLED TO ITS RIGHTFUL OWNER!

DAN-URR IMMEDIATELY KNOWS HE IS IN THE PRESENCE OF A DARK FORCE. HE REACHES DEEP INTO THE LIGHT, DRAWING ON THE BRIGHT POWER--AS HE TRIED TO TEACH NOMI SUNRIDER.
DARK JEDI, YOU DO NOT BELONG IN THIS PLACE.
AWAY!
MASTER, DO YOU REALLY KNOW WHO I AM?
I AM THE DARK LORD OF THE SITH.


I... AM OLD..
EVIL IS LOOSE... IN THE GALAXY..
AND I CANNOT STOP IT...

YES... YOU ARE OLD... OLD AND DEAD.
YOU SHOULD HAVE JUST GIVEN ME THE SITH HOLOCRON.


DAN-URR HAS GONE TO THE FORCE, LEAVING THE DARKEST POWER IN THE GALAXY TO WALK AWAY WITH SOMETHING THAT WILL MAKE HIM EVEN STRONGER.
I WONDER IF HE WOULD HAVE LIKED IT BETTER IF I HAD SEALED HIM IN A SITH CRYSTAL!
EXAR! WE'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU! YOU'VE GOT YOURSELF SOME STUDENTS!
RIGHT. WE'RE WITH YOU, KUN. WHEN DO WE LEAVE FOR YAVIN?
WH- WHAT HAPPENED? ISN'T THAT MASTER ODAN-URR'S ROBE AND STAFF?
YES... HE WAS ANCIENT AND IT WAS HIS TIME.
BUT BEFORE HE LEFT, HE GAVE ME A GIFT... A RARE HOLOCRON.
HE SAID IT WAS A FITTING PRESENT FOR A JEDI MASTER.
I AM A JEDI MASTER. ODAN-URR HAS PASSED HIS FLAME TO ME.
I AM THE KEEPER OF THE FUTURE.. WE HAVE GREAT DEEDS AHEAD OF US. I PROMISE YOU ONE THING--


"--I WILL NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF THE DARK SIDE."
THE GREAT REPUBLIC SHIPYARD AT FOEROST.
ONE OF THE OLDEST AND MOST SUCCESSFUL LARGE-SCALE ORBITAL CONSTRUCTION SITES... THE SHIPYARD BUILDERS OF FOEROST STRIP RAW MATERIALS FROM THE UNINHABITED PLANET AND LIFT THEM INTO HIGH ORBIT -
--WHERE, FOR CENTURIES, THE FOEROST SHIPYARDS HAVE PRODUCED A STEADY STREAM OF ADVANCED WARSHIPS FOR THE FLEET OF THE GALACTIC REPUBLIC.
WAKE UP DOWN THERE, GRID SEVEN! WE'VE GOT A SHIP LEAVING HYPERSPACE... ASKIN' TO DOCK FOR REPAIRS TO HER HULL!
A BIG ONE, FROM THE READINGS I'M GETTING. MAYBE THE HYPER-SCAN'S BROKEN.
OKAY, TOWER BRAVO...GOT 'EM ON MY SENSORS. TELL 'EM BAY 1763 IS OPEN FOR EMERGENCY REPAIRS.
WHOA... WAIT A MINUTE...

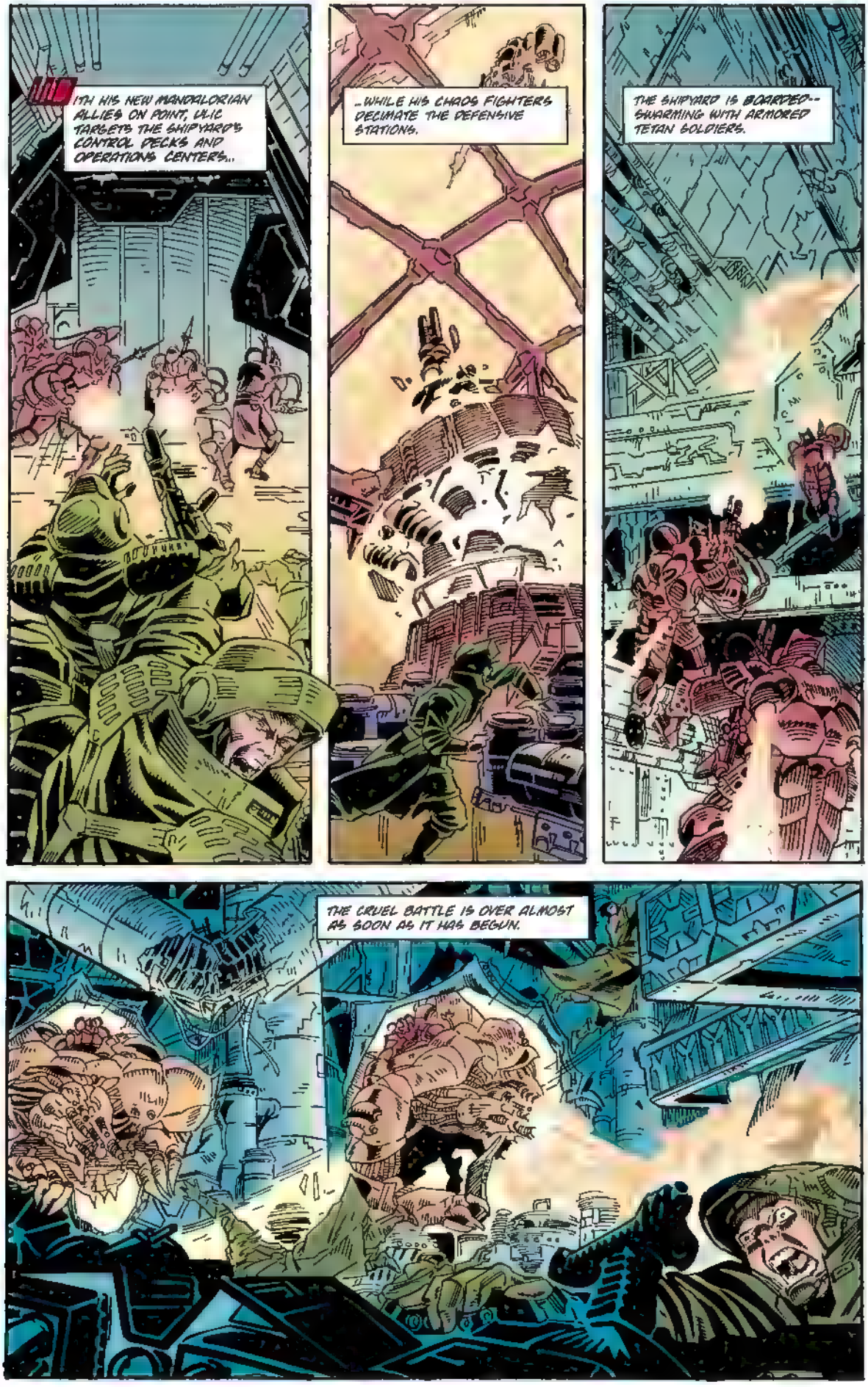
GOLTHAR'S SKY, HOLD IT RIGHT THERE-- NONE OF OUR DOCKS WILL HOLD YOU.

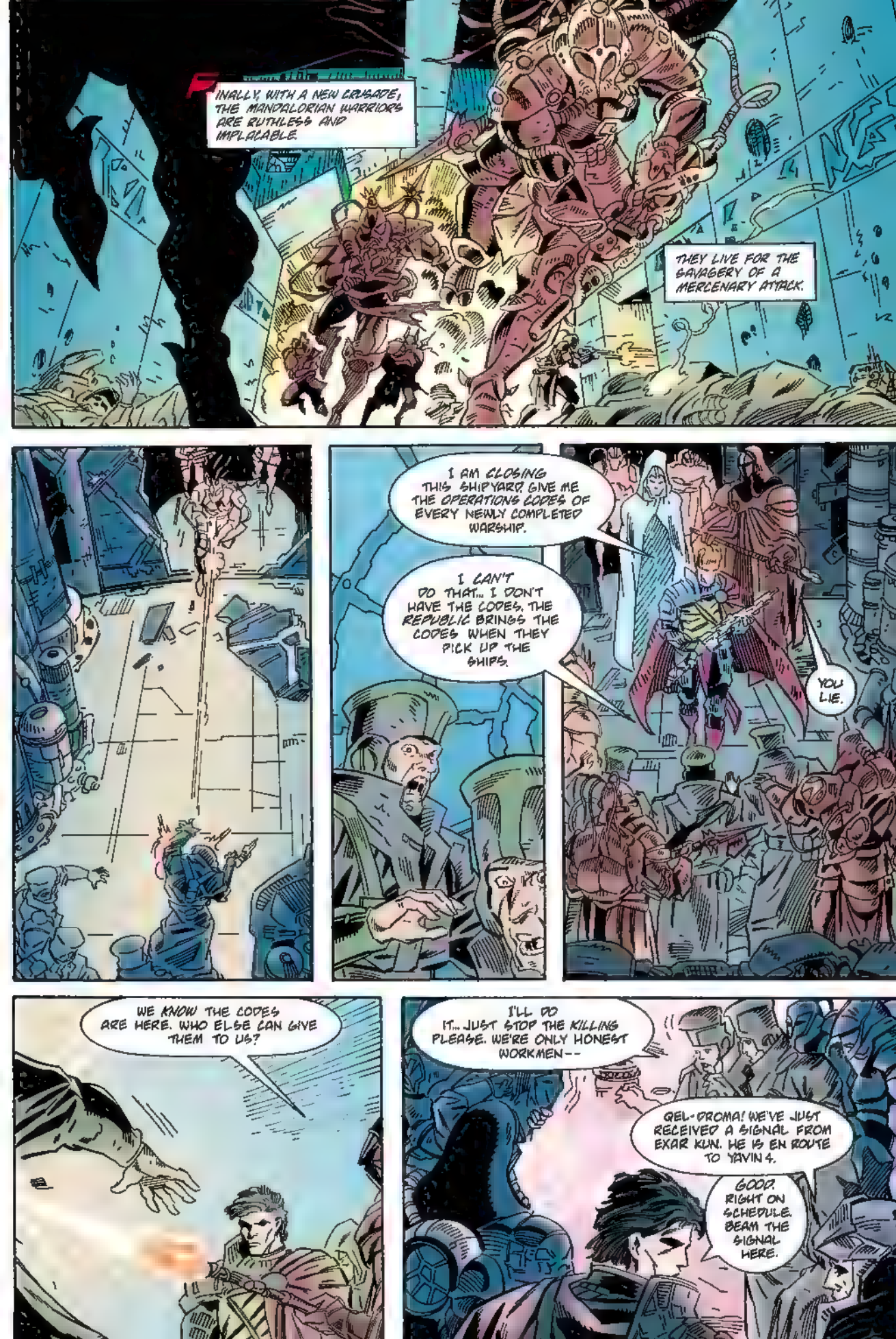
WE'RE SENDING OUT AN INSPECTION CREW TO VERIFY YOUR HULL DAMAGE.

DON'T BOTHER, THIS SHIP CAN'T BE REPAIRED...

...BECAUSE IT DOESN'T EXIST.

ONCE AGAIN, ALEEMA HAS USED HER ILLUSIONS...THIS TIME TO MASK ULIC QEL-DROMA'S DEADLY ATTACK SHIPS!

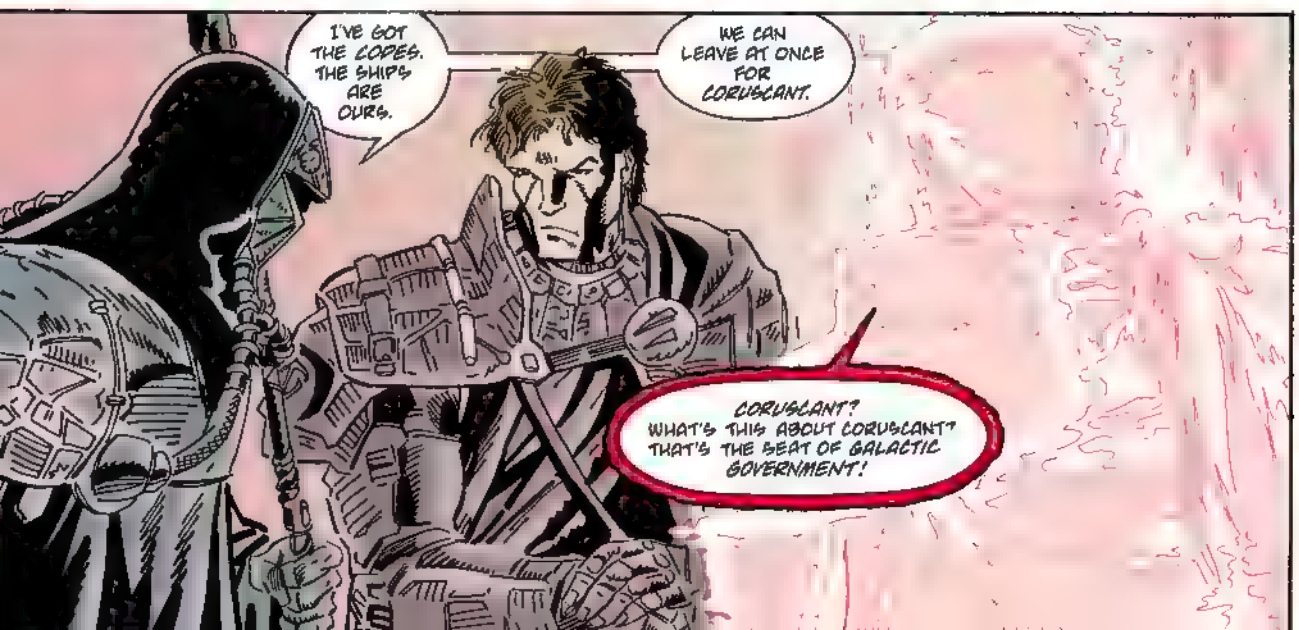

WITH HIS NEW MANDALORIAN ALLIES ON POINT, ULIC TARGETS THE SHIPYARD'S CONTROL DECKS AND OPERATIONS CENTERS...
...WHILE HIS CHAOS FIGHTERS DECIMATE THE DEFENSIVE STATIONS.
THE SHIPYARD IS BOARDED-- SWARMING WITH ARMORED TETAN SOLDIERS.
THE CRUEL BATTLE IS OVER ALMOST AS SOON AS IT HAS BEGUN.


FINALLY, WITH A NEW CRUSADE, THE MANDALORIAN WARRIORS ARE RUTHLESS AND IMPLACABLE.
THEY LIVE FOR THE SAVAGERY OF A MERCENARY ATTACK.
I AM CLOSING THIS SHIPYARD. GIVE ME THE OPERATIONS CODES OF EVERY NEWLY COMPLETED WARSHIP.
I CAN'T DO THAT... I DON'T HAVE THE CODES. THE REPUBLIC BRINGS THE CODES WHEN THEY PICK UP THE SHIPS.
YOU LIE.
WE KNOW THE CODES ARE HERE. WHO ELSE CAN GIVE THEM TO US?
I'LL DO IT... JUST STOP THE KILLING PLEASE. WE'RE ONLY HONEST WORKMEN--
QEL-DROMA! WE'VE JUST RECEIVED A SIGNAL FROM EXAR KUN. HE IS EN ROUTE TO YAVIN 4.
GOOD. RIGHT ON SCHEDULE. BEAM THE SIGNAL HERE.

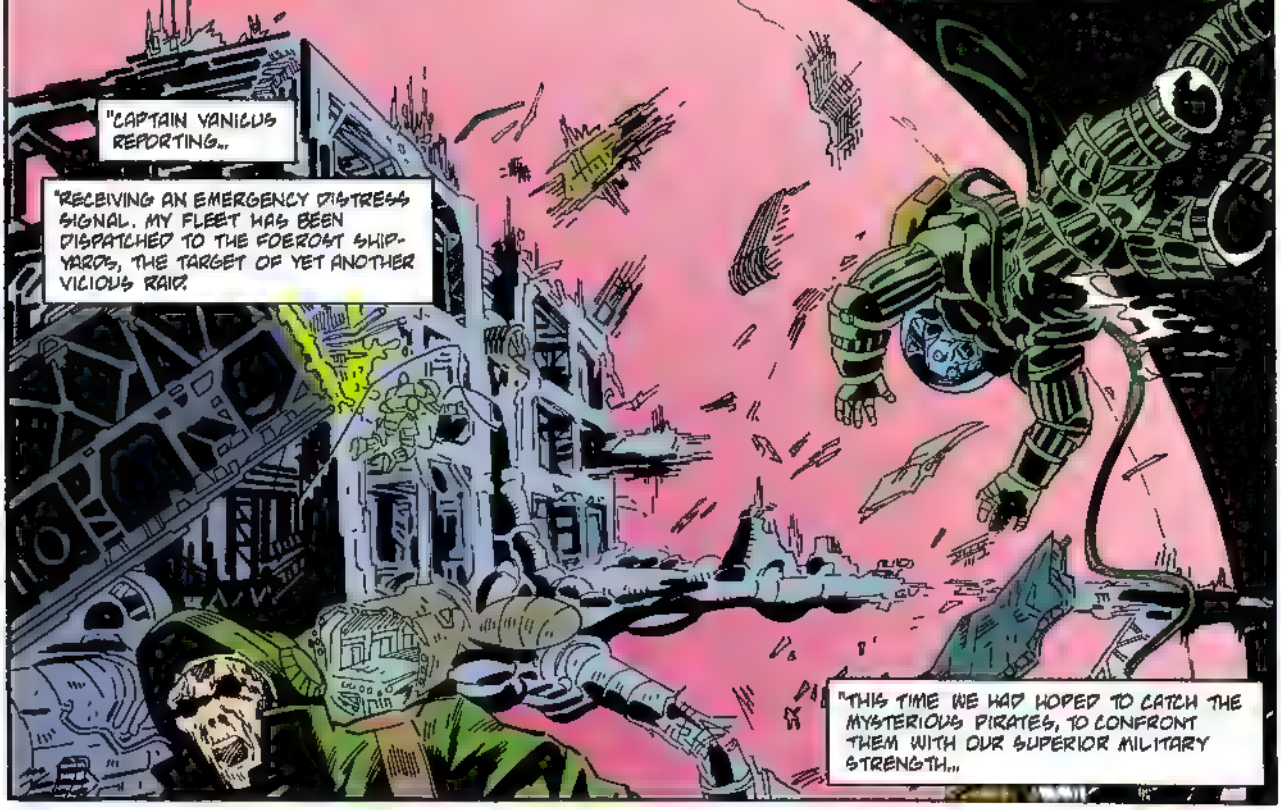
ULIC! MY HALF OF THE BARGAIN GOES FORWARD! I HAVE TWENTY KNIGHTS, READY TO BEGIN TRAINING UNDER MY INSTRUCTION!
ONLY TWENTY?

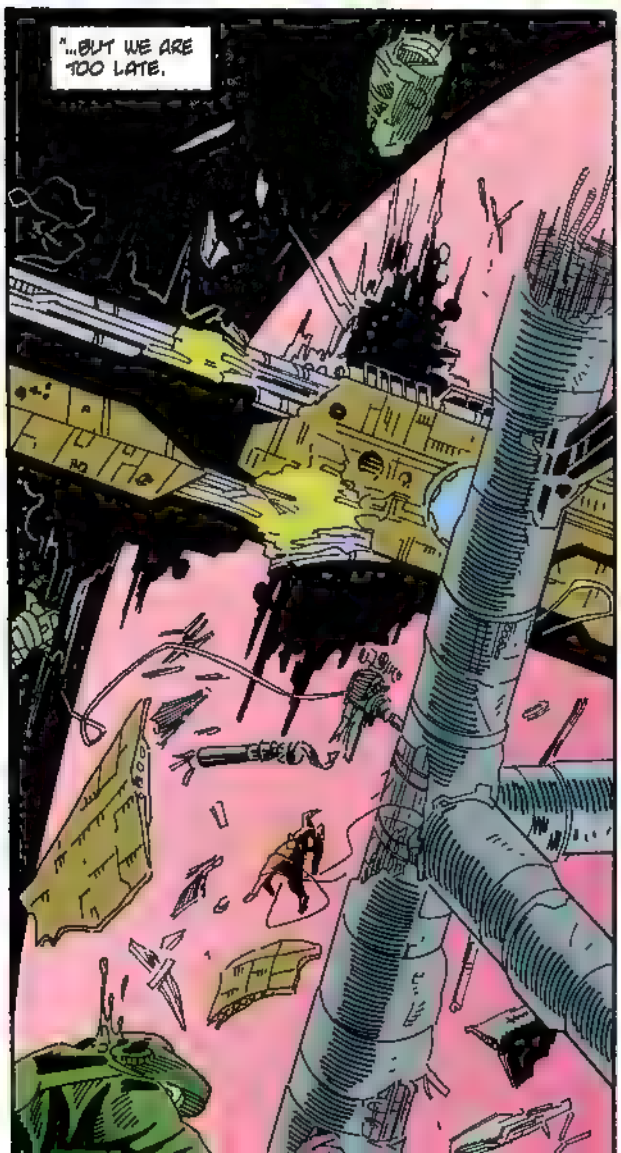
I HAVE TWO ENTIRE ARMIES, KUN.
AND NOW I HAVE THREE HUNDRED OF THE REPUBLIC'S NEWEST WARSHIPS.

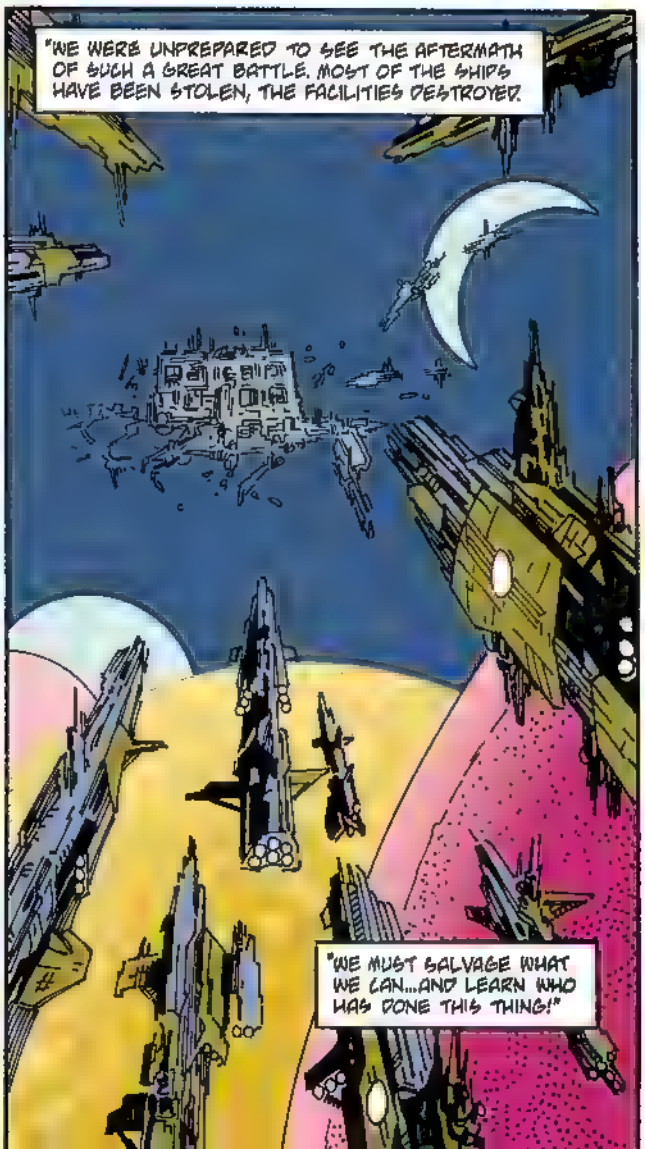
WELL DONE, WELL DONE. WE'LL NEED ALL THAT ARMOR FOR THE ENGAGEMENTS I HAVE PLANNED.
GATHER MORE SHIPS WHILE I TRAIN MY JEDI!


I'VE GOT THE CODES. THE SHIPS ARE OURS.
WE CAN LEAVE AT ONCE FOR CORUSCANT.
CORUSCANT? WHAT'S THIS ABOUT CORUSCANT? THAT'S THE SEAT OF GALACTIC GOVERNMENT!

I AM ATTACKING CORUSCANT AT ONCE THE REPUBLIC FLEET HAS BEEN ALERTED TO OUR PRESENCE HERE.
WE HAVE LED THEM TO EXPECT MORE TERROR-ATTACKS ON SHIPYARDS AND MILITARY OUTPOSTS.
THEREFORE, THE CORRECT MOVE IS TO ATTACK CORUSCANT... AT ONCE.
FOOL! YOU'LL JEOPARDIZE MY WHOLE PLAN! WE MUST BUILD SLOWLY... ADD TO THE FORCES... THEN WE WILL ATTACK TOGETHER.
I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE, BUT ULIC AND I CAN HANDLE CORUSCANT.
THE MANDALORE CLANS ARE THE BEST FIGHTERS IN THE GALAXY... WE DON'T NEED TO WAIT FOR A FEW JEDI.
I CAN SEE THAT NO APPEALS OF MINE WILL CHANGE YOUR MIND.
VERY WELL, GEL-DROMA. PROVE YOUR MANHOOD IF YOU MUST. IF YOU FAIL, I WILL GO ON WITHOUT YOU.
I'M GOING TO PROVE THAT THE REPUBLIC IS WEAK AND VULNERABLE, EXAR KUN.
ANYBODY WHO CALLS HIMSELF "DARK LORD OF THE SITH" WOULD GRASP WHAT I'M UP TO.
A TRUE DARK LORD WOULD BE READY TO GO TO WAR!

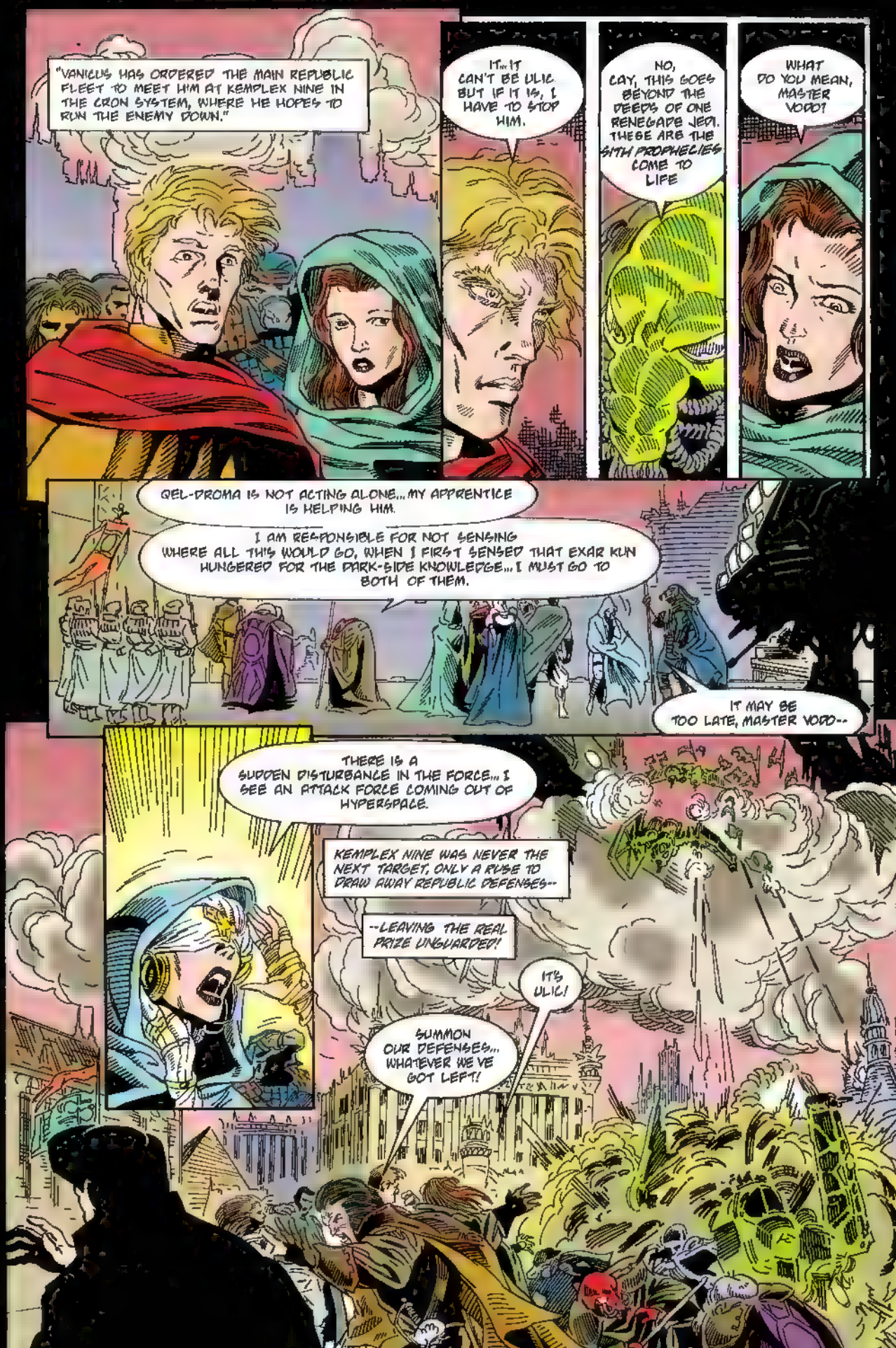

"CAPTAIN VANICUS REPORTING...
"RECEIVING AN EMERGENCY DISTRESS SIGNAL. MY FLEET HAS BEEN DISPATCHED TO THE FOEROST SHIP-YARDS, THE TARGET OF YET ANOTHER VICIOUS RAID.
"THIS TIME WE HAD HOPED TO CATCH THE MYSTERIOUS PIRATES, TO CONFRONT THEM WITH OUR SUPERIOR MILITARY STRENGTH...


"...BUT WE ARE TOO LATE.

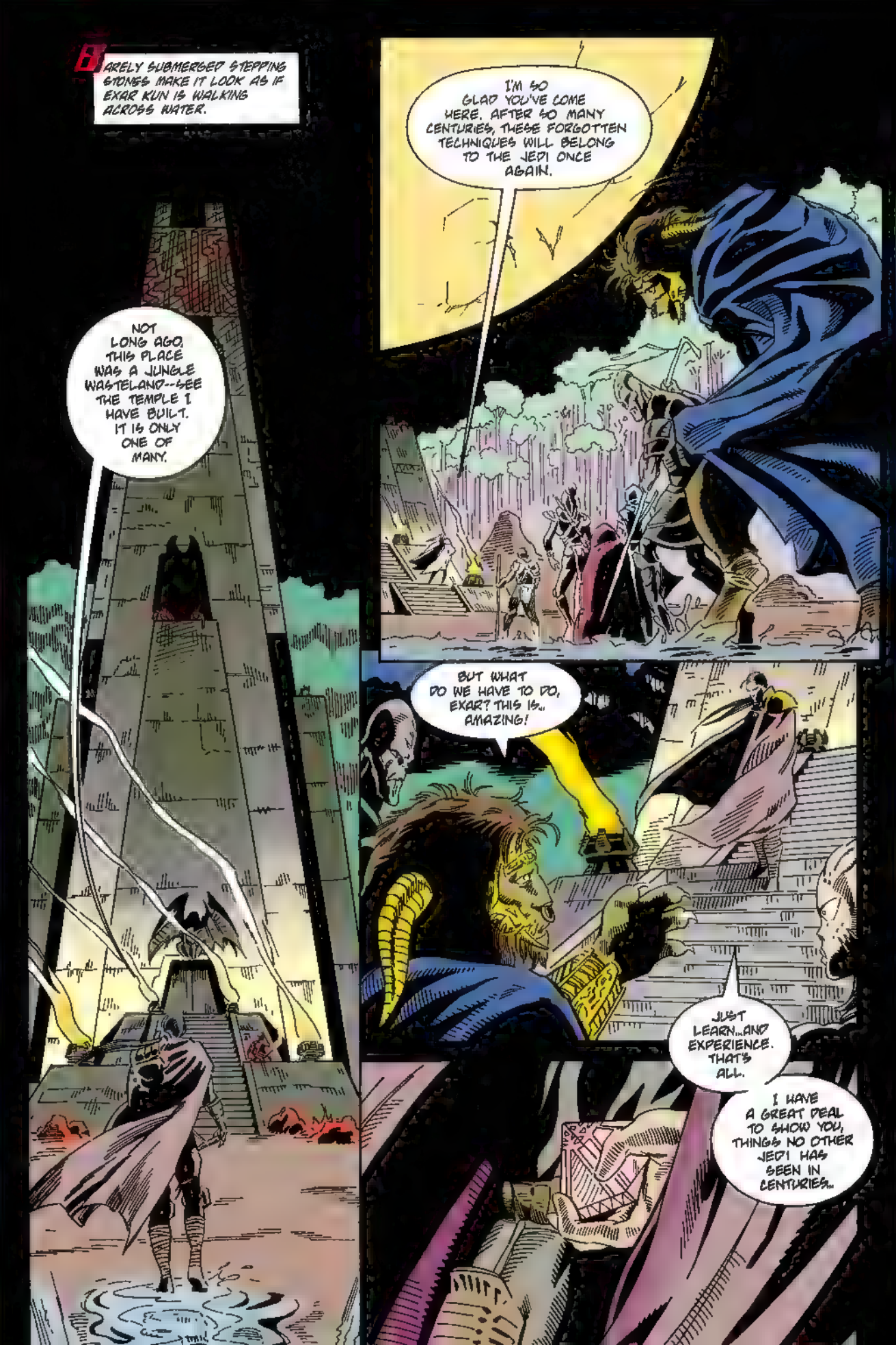

"WE WERE UNPREPARED TO SEE THE AFTERMATH OF SUCH A GREAT BATTLE. MOST OF THE SHIPS HAVE BEEN STOLEN, THE FACILITIES DESTROYED.
"WE MUST SALVAGE WHAT WE CAN...AND LEARN WHO HAS DONE THIS THING!"

SEARCH THROUGH THE STATION LOGS AND AUTOMATED RECORDS!
SEE WHAT KIND OF TRICK THE PIRATES USED.
THIS IS THE FOURTH SUCH GUERRILLA ATTACK IN THE LAST TWO WEEKS!
YES, SIR!
FIND ME WITNESSES! I WANT TO TALK TO SOME SURVIVORS!
THERE ARE DAMNED FEW INTACT RESCUE PODS, SIR-- BUT WE'VE RETRIEVED SEVERAL.
MOST OF THE COMPUTER SYSTEMS ARE BURNED OUT, INTENTIONALLY FRIED.
SOMEBODY KNEW EXACTLY WHAT THEY WERE DOING.
WAIT! I'VE FOUND SOMETHING!
THIS WAS RECORDED BY ONE OF THE STATION'S AUTOMATED SECURITY SYSTEMS. I'M SURE THE PIRATES DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT IT.
NOW WITH OUR WAR FLEET WE CAN PREPARE FOR OUR NEXT PRIMARY STRIKE.
I KNOW THAT MAN... FROM THE BATTLE OF KOROS MAJOR...
WE WILL MEET AT THE RENDEZVOUS POINT FOR OUR SURPRISE STRIKE AGAINST KEMPLEX NINE. THE STRATEGIC JUMP-STATION IS UNDEFENDED. IT'LL BE AN EASY VICTORY.
DISPATCH ALL SHIPS IMMEDIATELY TO KEMPLEX NINE! WE'LL CATCH HIM THIS TIME!
NOW I REMEMBER--HE IS A JEDI! OUR ENEMY IS ULIC QEL-DROMA! WE MUST REPORT THIS TO CORUSCANT AT ONCE
THIS IS A DARK DAY FOR THE REPUBLIC.

CORUSCANT, SEAT OF GALACTIC GOVERNMENT.
WORD HAS REACHED THE JEDI THAT A ROGUE JEDI KNIGHT HAS BEEN LEADING TERROR ATTACKS AGAINST REPUBLIC SHIPYARDS.
MASTER VODO AND A CONTINGENT OF YOUNG JEDI HAVE ARRIVED TO CONVINCE THE GALACTIC SENATE TO LET THE JEDI DEAL WITH THIS RENEGADE, WHOEVER HE IS.
VODO! IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN!
YES, NETUS. I'M JUST SORRY IT HAS TO BE UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES.
FRANKLY, I THINK YOUR CONCERN IS PREMATURE, VODO.
SO FAR, ALL WE HAVE IS A *RUMOR* OF JEDI INVOLVEMENT--NOTHING CONCRETE.
THE JEDI MASTERS HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THIS IS MORE THAN A RUMOR.
A REPORT FROM CAPTAIN VANICUS, SIR--AT FOEROST!
VANICUS HAS IDENTIFIED THE TERRORIST--YOU'RE RIGHT, VODO. THIS IS MORE THAN A RUMOR.
THE LEADER OF THE ATTACK WAS THE JEDI, *ULIC QEL-DROMA.*


"VANICUS HAS ORDERED THE MAIN REPUBLIC FLEET TO MEET HIM AT KEMPLEX NINE IN THE CRON SYSTEM, WHERE HE HOPES TO RUN THE ENEMY DOWN."
IT...IT CAN'T BE ULIC. BUT IF IT IS, I HAVE TO STOP HIM.
NO, CAY, THIS GOES BEYOND THE DEEDS OF ONE RENEGADE JEDI. THESE ARE THE SITH PROPHECIES COME TO LIFE
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, MASTER VOOD?
QEL-DROMA IS NOT ACTING ALONE... MY APPRENTICE IS HELPING HIM.
I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR NOT SENSING WHERE ALL THIS WOULD GO, WHEN I FIRST SENSED THAT EXAR KUN HUNGERED FOR THE DARK-SIDE KNOWLEDGE... I MUST GO TO BOTH OF THEM.
IT MAY BE TOO LATE, MASTER VOOD--
THERE IS A SUDDEN DISTURBANCE IN THE FORCE... I SEE AN ATTACK FORCE COMING OUT OF HYPERSPACE.
KEMPLEX NINE WAS NEVER THE NEXT TARGET, ONLY A RUSE TO DRAW AWAY REPUBLIC DEFENSES--
--LEAVING THE REAL PRIZE UNGUARDED!
IT'S ULIC!
SUMMON OUR DEFENSES... WHATEVER WE'VE GOT LEFT!

YAVIN FOUR.
EXAR KUN'S REPAIRED SHIP, STARSTORM ONE, RETURNS FROM OSSUS WITH A GROUP OF JEDI CONVERTS, THOSE WHO ARE INTERESTED IN LEARNING KUN'S NEW TEACHINGS...
...UNAWARE OF THE DANGER THAT AWAITS THEM!
HE HAS PROMISED THEM POWERS THAT WILL MAKE THEIR JEDI MASTERS PROUD.
YOU WILL BE AMAZED!
WELCOME TO YAVIN FOUR, THE HOME OF MANY SECRETS AND FORGOTTEN KNOWLEDGE. NO OTHER JEDI KNOWS OF THIS PLACE EXCEPT MYSELF... AND NOW, ALL OF YOU.
I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT YOU'VE FOUND, EXAR.
WHAT A STRANGE PLACE...

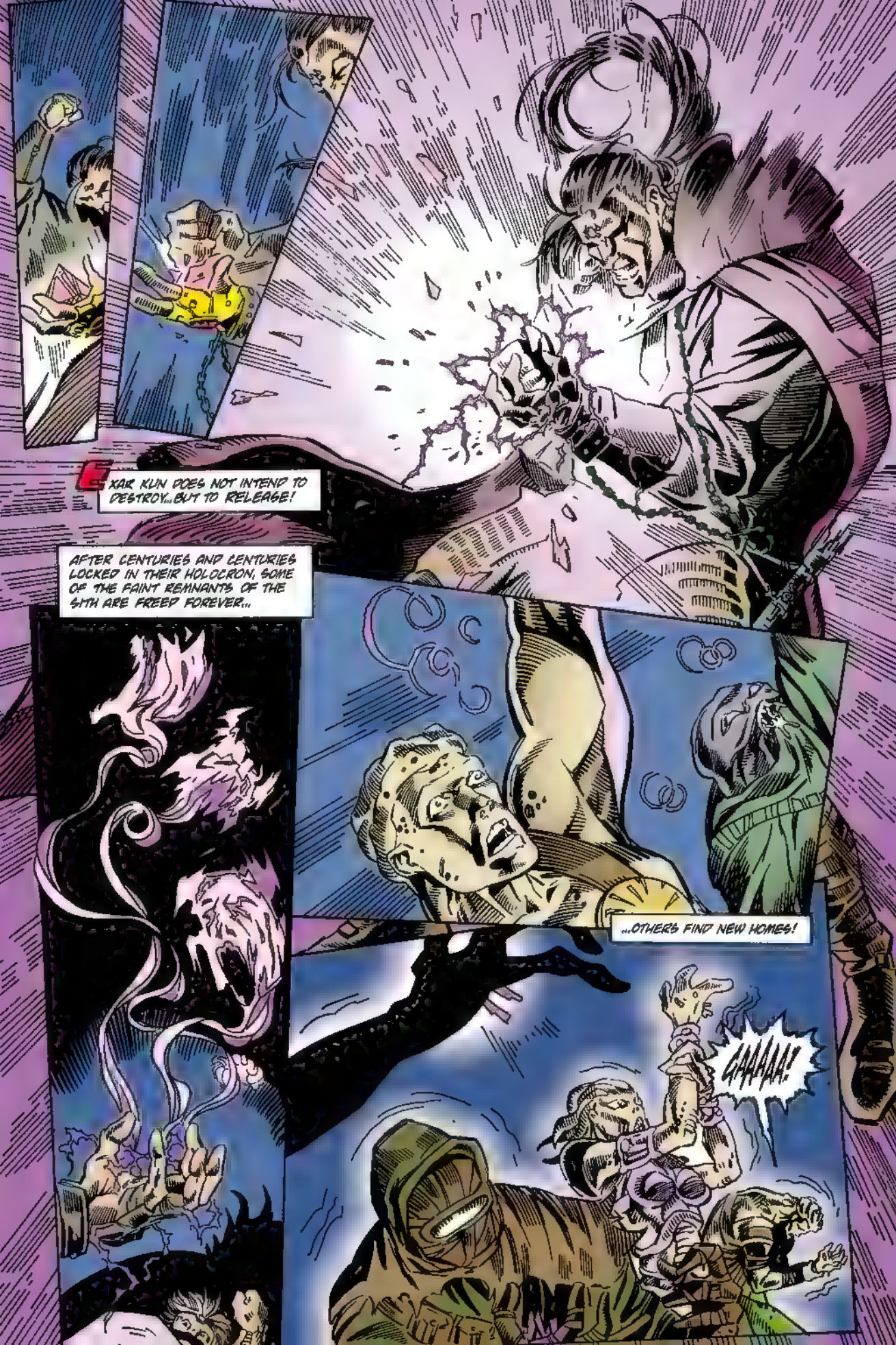

BARELY SUBMERGED STEPPING STONES MAKE IT LOOK AS IF EXAR KUN IS WALKING ACROSS WATER.
I'M SO GLAD YOU'VE COME HERE. AFTER SO MANY CENTURIES, THESE FORGOTTEN TECHNIQUES WILL BELONG TO THE JEDI ONCE AGAIN.
NOT LONG AGO, THIS PLACE WAS A JUNGLE WASTELAND--SEE THE TEMPLE I HAVE BUILT. IT IS ONLY ONE OF MANY.
BUT WHAT DO WE HAVE TO DO, EXAR? THIS IS... AMAZING!
JUST LEARN...AND EXPERIENCE. THAT'S ALL.
I HAVE A GREAT DEAL TO SHOW YOU, THINGS NO OTHER JEDI HAS SEEN IN CENTURIES...

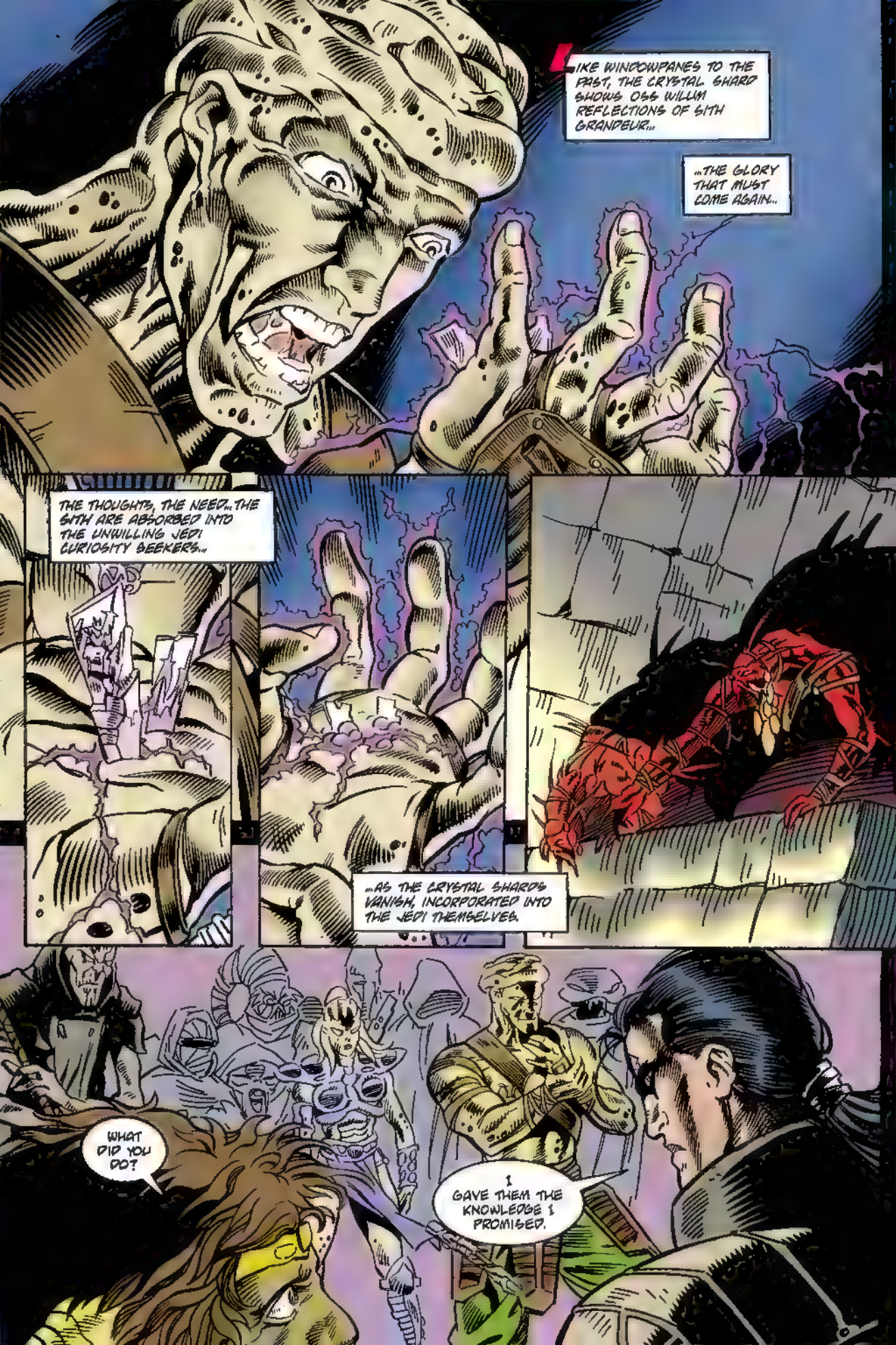
SO FAR, ALL YOU'VE GIVEN US IS A LOT OF TALK, EXAR KUN.
I'M NOT SURE ABOUT ALL THIS...
TRUST ME. THERE IS SO MUCH MORE--
BUT THERE'S A WRONGNESS TO THIS PLACE.
I THINK IT'S A TAINT ON THE DARK SIDE, STRONG AND FESTERING.
WE SHOULDN'T BE HERE.
I'M GOING TO STAY BACK AT THE SHIP. I DON'T THINK I WANT ANY PART OF THIS.
WAIT, OSS WILUM!
WHAT--?

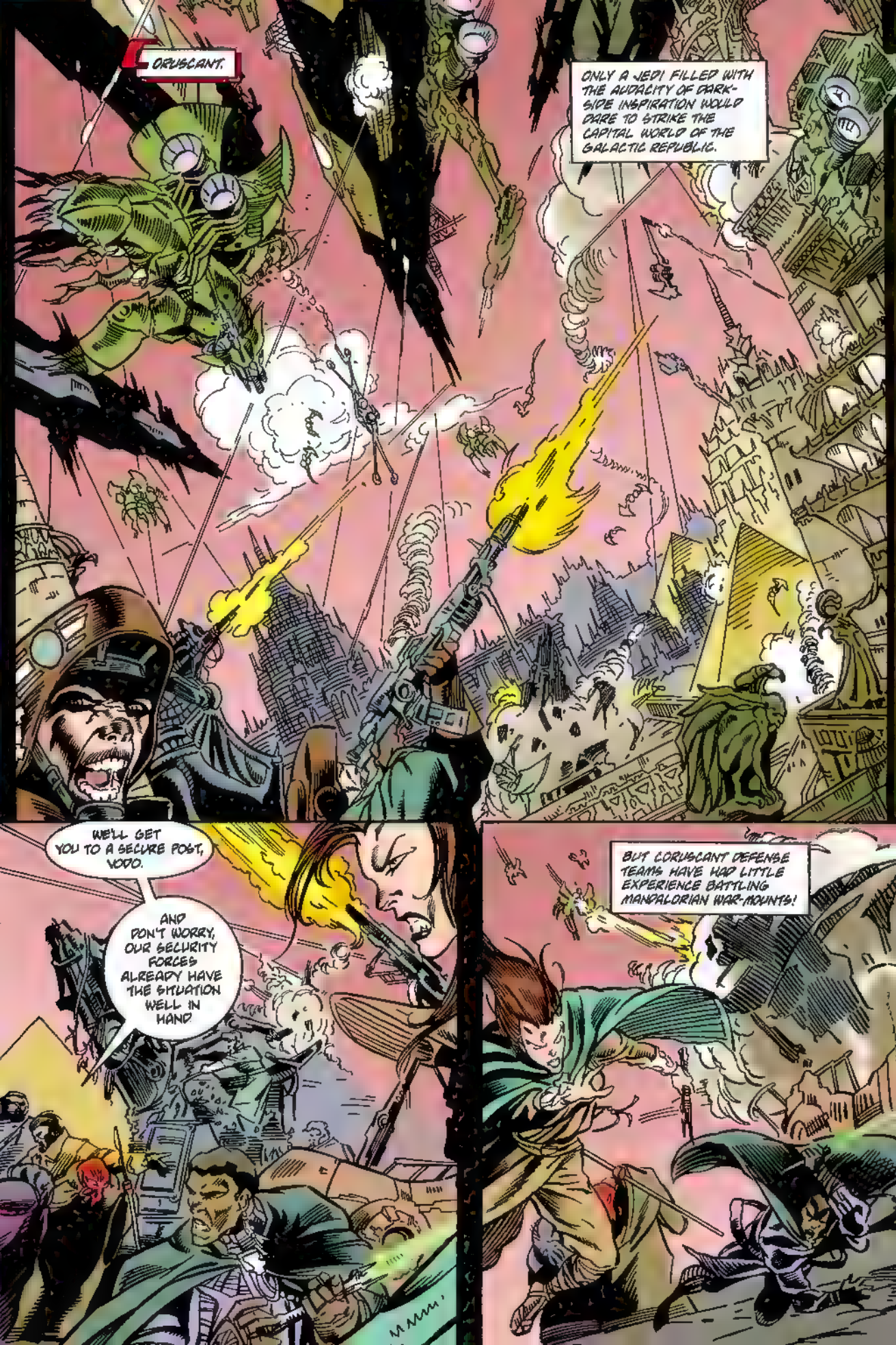
ZZZZSSSRZSHH
CALL THEM OFF, KUN!
THE JEDI FIGHT TOGETHER!
WAIT! WAIT!
WHAT HAVE WE GOTTEN OURSELVES INTO HERE...?

STOP!!! ALL OF YOU!
THESE NATIVES JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND. THEY ARE TRYING TO PROTECT ME. DON'T BE TOO HARD ON THEM... CALM...CALM...
THIS ONLY PROVES MY FEARS, EXAR KUN. THIS PLACE IS THICK WITH THE DARK SIDE.
AND FOR SOME REASON, YOU ARE BLIND TO IT.
NO, YOU'RE MISINTERPRETING THE SITUATION, OSS WILLUM. BUT I CAN UNDERSTAND YOUR RELUCTANCE.
THIS PLACE DOES HAVE A GREAT TAINT OF ANCIENT EVIL--BUT I HAVE CLAIMED YAVIN FOUR FOR THE LIGHT SIDE. I AM PURIFYING IT--AND I NEED YOUR HELP. PLEASE.
YEAH, WE CAN CONQUER IT WITH THE LIGHT SIDE! TOGETHER!
WE'RE WITH YOU, EXAR KUN.
COME, JEDI. IF YOU LET ME SHOW YOU JUST ONE EXAMPLE, THEN YOU CAN DEPART WITH AT LEAST AN INKLING OF MY WORK HERE.
IT'S VERY IMPORTANT.

JEDI, I NEED YOUR HELP TO DESTROY ONE OF THE LAST REMAINING SHREDS OF DARKNESS, TO LIBERATE THE LIGHT
THIS PLACE IS VERY POWERFUL AND CAN BE USED FOR THE GOOD OF ALL--IF IT CAN BE CLEANSED.
THIS IS NOT AN ANCIENT JEDI HOLOCRON, AS I TOLD YOU. IT IS A SITH HOLOCRON!
FORBIDDEN KNOWLEDGE, A DARK TAINT ON YAVIN FOUR. BUT WE CAN OVERCOME IT, YOU AND I!
FEEL THE FORCE IN YOU. HOLD UP YOUR HANDS TO BLOCK THE FLASH...
...AND I WILL DESTROY THIS ARTIFACT TO SHOW YOU HOW STRONG THE JEDI HAVE BECOME.


XAR KUN DOES NOT INTEND TO DESTROY...BUT TO RELEASE!
AFTER CENTURIES AND CENTURIES LOCKED IN THEIR HOLOCRON, SOME OF THE FAINT REMNANTS OF THE SITH ARE FREED FOREVER...
...OTHERS FIND NEW HOMES!
GAAAAA!


LIKE WINDOWPANES TO THE PAST, THE CRYSTAL SHARD SHOWS OSS WILLIN REFLECTIONS OF SITH GRANDEUR...
...THE GLORY THAT MUST COME AGAIN...
THE THOUGHTS, THE NEED...THE SITH ARE ABSORBED INTO THE UNWILLING JEDI CURIOSITY SEEKERS...
...AS THE CRYSTAL SHARDS VANISH, INCORPORATED INTO THE JEDI THEMSELVES.
WHAT DID YOU DO?
I GAVE THEM THE KNOWLEDGE I PROMISED.


CORUSCANT.
ONLY A JEDI FILLED WITH THE AUDACITY OF DARK-SIDE INSPIRATION WOULD DARE TO STRIKE THE CAPITAL WORLD OF THE GALACTIC REPUBLIC.
WE'LL GET YOU TO A SECURE POST, VODO.
AND DON'T WORRY, OUR SECURITY FORCES ALREADY HAVE THE SITUATION WELL IN HAND
BUT CORUSCANT DEFENSE TEAMS HAVE HAD LITTLE EXPERIENCE BATTLING MANDALORIAN WAR-MOUNTS!

THEY'RE COMIN' BACK-- THIS TIME THEY'LL BE AIMING FOR US!
WE'VE GOT TO ACTIVATE THIS OLD LASER CANNON.
HEY, IT'S STILL GOT A CHARGE FROM THE WAR DAY CELEBRATION.
BE READY FOR THEM!
WHOOSH
MASTER... WE'VE GOT TO GET YOU UNDER COVER!
WHAT IS IMPORTANT IS THAT WE GET TO THE REPUBLIC COMMAND CENTER. I HAVE SEEN THAT THE WAR ROOM IS WHERE THIS BATTLE WILL BE DECIDED.

LIC'S BATTLE PLAN IS TO OCCUPY THE REPUBLIC WAR ROOM--AND CRUSH THE HEART OF THE MILITARY COMMAND!
THE ADVANCE TEAMS ARE DEPLOYED. WE CAUGHT CORUSCANT COMPLETELY BY SURPRISE--EXACTLY AS YOU SAID.
GOOD. WE'LL MOVE AT ONCE ON THE REPUBLIC COMMAND CENTER.
I WANT ALEEMA'S ILLUSIONS. I WANT A PHALANX OF TETAN GROUND TROOPS... AND I WANT A HUNDRED OF YOUR BEST, MANDALORE.
AH... MY SPIES TELL ME THE REPUBLIC HAS NEW WEAPONS IN PRODUCTION NEAR THE COMMAND CENTER.
MY FIGHTERS WOULD LIKE TO GET OUR HANDS ON THEM.
WE WON'T NEED THOSE WEAPONS ONCE WE TAKE OVER THEIR MILITARY COMMAND. WITH THIS ONE VICTORY, THE WHOLE GALAXY IS GOING TO FALL NEATLY INTO OUR HANDS.
EXAR KUN WILL WISH HE HADN'T WAITED!
LET MANDALORE HAVE HIS NEW TOYS, LIC... I HAVE THE EXTRA MEN YOU NEED FOR YOUR LITTLE TAKEOVER... AND MY POWERS WILL COVER YOU.
YOU'RE RIGHT. LET'S GO TO STAGE TWO.

WE'VE GOT TO GET TO THE MILITARY COMMAND CENTER! HOW DO THEY EXPECT US TO OVERSEE CORUSCANT'S DEFENSES?
IF WE GET THERE ALIVE.
THE SKIRMISH WITH THE MANDALORIANS DELAYS THE JEDIS' ARRIVAL AT THE COMMAND CENTER--

--ULIC'S TROOPS MEET NO SUCH OPPOSITION, HOWEVER!
THE WAY IS CLEAR TO THE WAR ROOM, LORD!
THEN IT IS TIME TO STRIKE A BLOW TO THE REPUBLIC'S HEART.

MANDALORE SAYS HE IS ABOUT TO BREACH THE WEAPONS DEPOT.
TELL HIM TO GO AHEAD... BUT BE READY TO PULL OUT AT MY COMMAND.
PULL OUT? THE CHARGE IS ALREADY UNDER WAY!
HURRY IT UP! WE MIGHT HAVE TO LEAVE!
THIS IS THE MK... I HEARD ABOUT IT. THEY'RE USING ION-FLOW AS A POWER SOURCE. IT'LL CLEAN OFF A QUARTER-DECK IN HALF A MILLISEC.
TAKE IT!

OKAY! THE WAY IS CLEAR TO THE WAR BUILDING! WE'LL BE RIGHT BEHIND YA!
ULIC'S ALREADY IN THERE... I CAN FEEL HIM. AND THE WOMAN...SHE'S THERE WITH HIM BE CAREFUL.
A JEDI HAS BROKEN OUR WAY. THIS IS THE TIME TO BE FIRM, NOT CAREFUL.

I NEVER THOUGHT I WOULD SEE A JEDI KNIGHT TURN TRAITOR. YOU WILL PAY DEARLY FOR THIS.
I DON'T COME IN THE NAME OF THE JEDI...
...I COME IN THE NAME OF THE FUTURE, A NEW GOLDEN AGE FOR THE GALAXY...
...A FUTURE BASED ON THE SITH, NOT THE CREAKING OLD REPUBLIC.
YOU WILL TRANSMIT THE FOLLOWING ORDERS TO THE FLEET--
--TELL EACH ADMIRAL TO DEPLOY HIS SQUADRON TO THE YENTO SYSTEM SHIPYARDS AT THE FOLLOWING COORDINATES--
07.BBZ.76.999--
ARE YOU INSANE? IF I GIVE THEM ALL THE SAME COORDINATES, THEY'LL DEMOLISH EACH OTHER!
SEEING THE JEDI FORCES APPROACHING, ALEEMA FINALLY SEIZES HER CHANCE.
TELL MANDALORE WE ARE PULLING BACK. IMMEDIATELY. HAVE HIM REJOIN US AT THE ORBITING COMMAND SHIPS.
IT IS TIME FOR ULIC QEL-DROMA TO DEAL WITH HIS OWN KIND.
PULL BACK?! WE HAVEN'T EVEN-- LET ME SPEAK TO LORD ULIC--
QEL-DROMA IS DEAD...THE FLEET IS ON ITS WAY TO CRUSH US.
HER EXCELLENCE WANTS YOU TO TAKE QEL-DROMA'S PLACE AS HER WARLORD.
YES, EXCELLENCE.
AS YOU COMMAND?!
TAKE WHAT YOU CAN! WE'RE PULLING OUT!

STRANGE... THEY'RE PULLING BACK. I WONDER IF QEL-DROMA'S REALLY IN THE WAR ROOM.
YEAH, MY BROTHER'S IN THERE.
WE ALL FEEL HIM.
THIS WILL BE A TURNING POINT FOR THE GALAXY.
THE JEDI KNIGHTS ARE ALL TOGETHER NOW, A MORE POWERFUL FORCE ARRAYED AGAINST ULIC THAN ALL THE MILITARY DEFENSES OF CORUSCANT.
WHO ELSE WILL RESIST MY ORDER?
I WILL, ULIC!
SAY... NOMI! YOU AREN'T SUPPOSED TO BE HERE!
GET OUT OF HERE, ALL OF YOU, IF YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOOD FOR YOU.
WHEN I PLANNED THIS ATTACK--

JEDI STAND-OFF--BUT ULIC CANNOT WIN.
NO, ULIC QEL-DROMA. YOU MUST COME WITH US. IT IS FINISHED HERE.
YOUR SITH DELUSIONS MUST CAUSE NO MORE HARM.
THE JEDI PREFER TO DISARM, RATHER THAN FIGHT.
MASTER YODO AND NOMI SUNRIDER KNOW OF THE "BLOCKING" TECHNIQUE MASTER ODAN-URR HAD TAUGHT...
THANK YOU, MASTER YODO.
THE REPUBLIC HAS JURISDICTION OVER THIS MAN NOW. PLEASE RELEASE HIM TO US.
ULIC QEL-DROMA, JEDI AND TRAITOR...YOU WILL STAND TRIAL...
...AND YOU WILL BE SENTENCED TO DEATH.
THE OTHER JEDI ADD THEIR POWERS TO CEMENT A TEMPORARY WALL OF LIGHT, IMPRISONING ULIC.

IN THE JUNGLE MOON OF YAVIN...
YOU ARE NOW...MORE THAN YOU WERE.
NOT MUCH REMAINED OF THOSE SITH EXILES TRAPPED IN THE ANCIENT HOLOCRON, BUT THEIR RESIDUE HAS JOINED WITH YOUR OWN AMBITIONS.
WE ALL HAVE THE SAME GOAL. JEDI KNIGHTS AND SITH MAGIC--WE WILL BE UNBEATABLE!
BUT WHAT ABOUT ME, EXAR?
STAY BY MY SIDE, CRADO--I HAVE MANY IMPORTANT TASKS FOR YOU...
"...THESE OTHERS SERVE ME IN A DIFFERENT MANNER."

WE MUST GET TO OUR SHIPS. WE HAVE A MISSION.
THE JEDI WILL RESIST US, NO DOUBT--AFRAID TO GIVE UP THEIR OLD WAYS.
"REGARDLESS OF HOW ULIC QEL-DROMA'S PREEMPTIVE STRIKE TURNS OUT, WE MUST SHOW THE ENTIRE REPUBLIC AND ALL OF THE OTHER JEDI--
"--NEVER TO UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF THE SITH!"

DANTOOINE.

"I SHOULD HAVE FORESEEN THIS WAR. THE STORM HAS COME, AND I KNOW WHAT IS AT ITS HEART.

"NOT JUST A MILITARY BATTLE FOR THE DOMINANCE OF A FEW WORLDS--THIS IS A WAR OF LIGHT AND DARKNESS, AND AT ITS CENTER IS MY OWN STUDENT--EXAR KUN.

"AS A JEDI MASTER, I FAILED HIM..."

...NOW I MUST FACE THE CONSEQUENCES.

"EXAR KUN DEFEATED ME, HIS OWN MASTER, IN A LIGHTSABER BATTLE...

"...MASTER ARCA DEAD...

"...WHILE KUN HIMSELF FELL TO THE DARK SIDE.

"AND NOW THIS ATTACK ON CORUSCANT ITSELF."

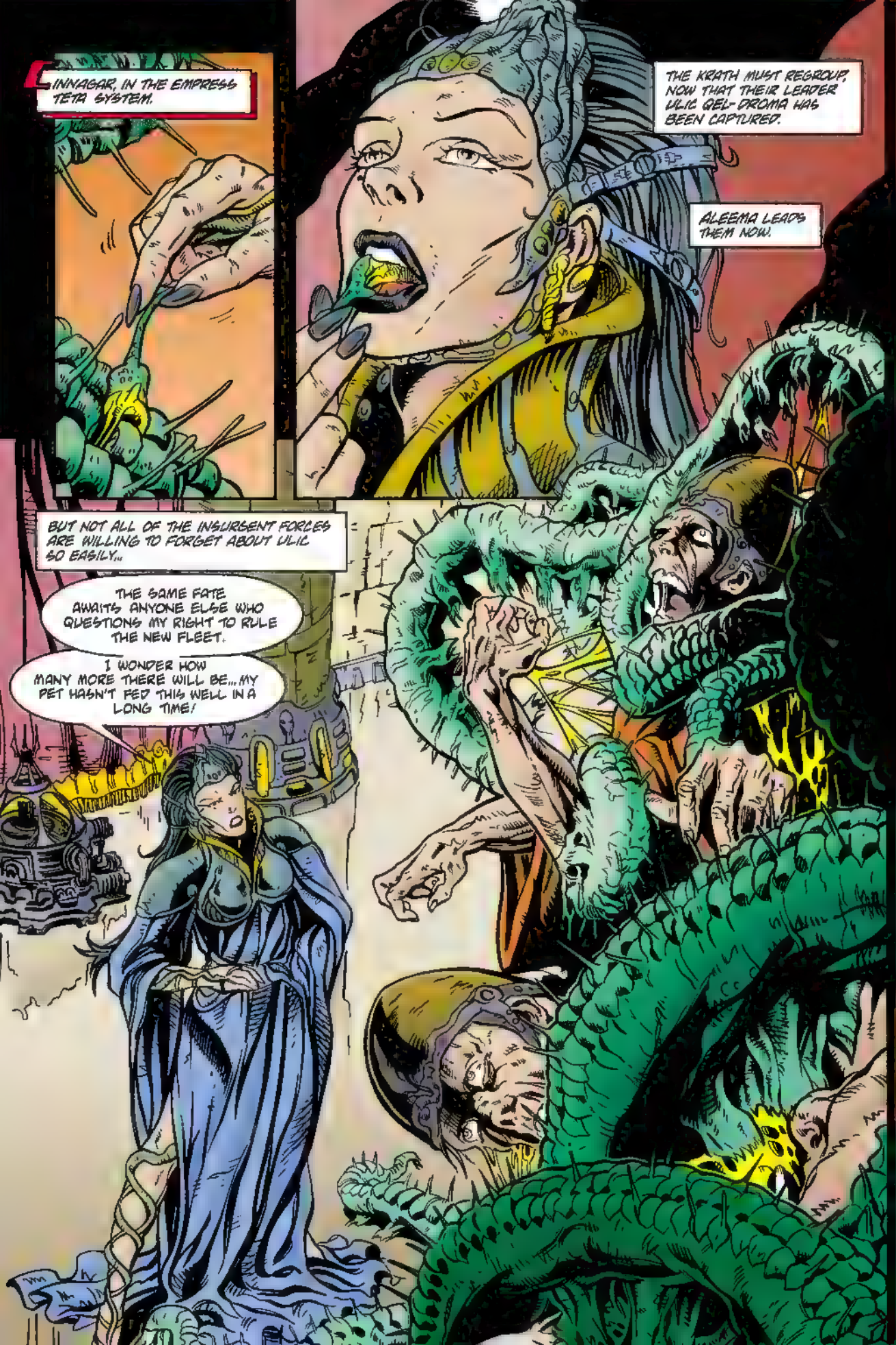
ULIC QEL-DROMA HAS BEEN ARRESTED AS THE LEADER OF THESE ATTACKS... BUT I KNOW BETTER.

ULIC IS JUST A VICTIM.

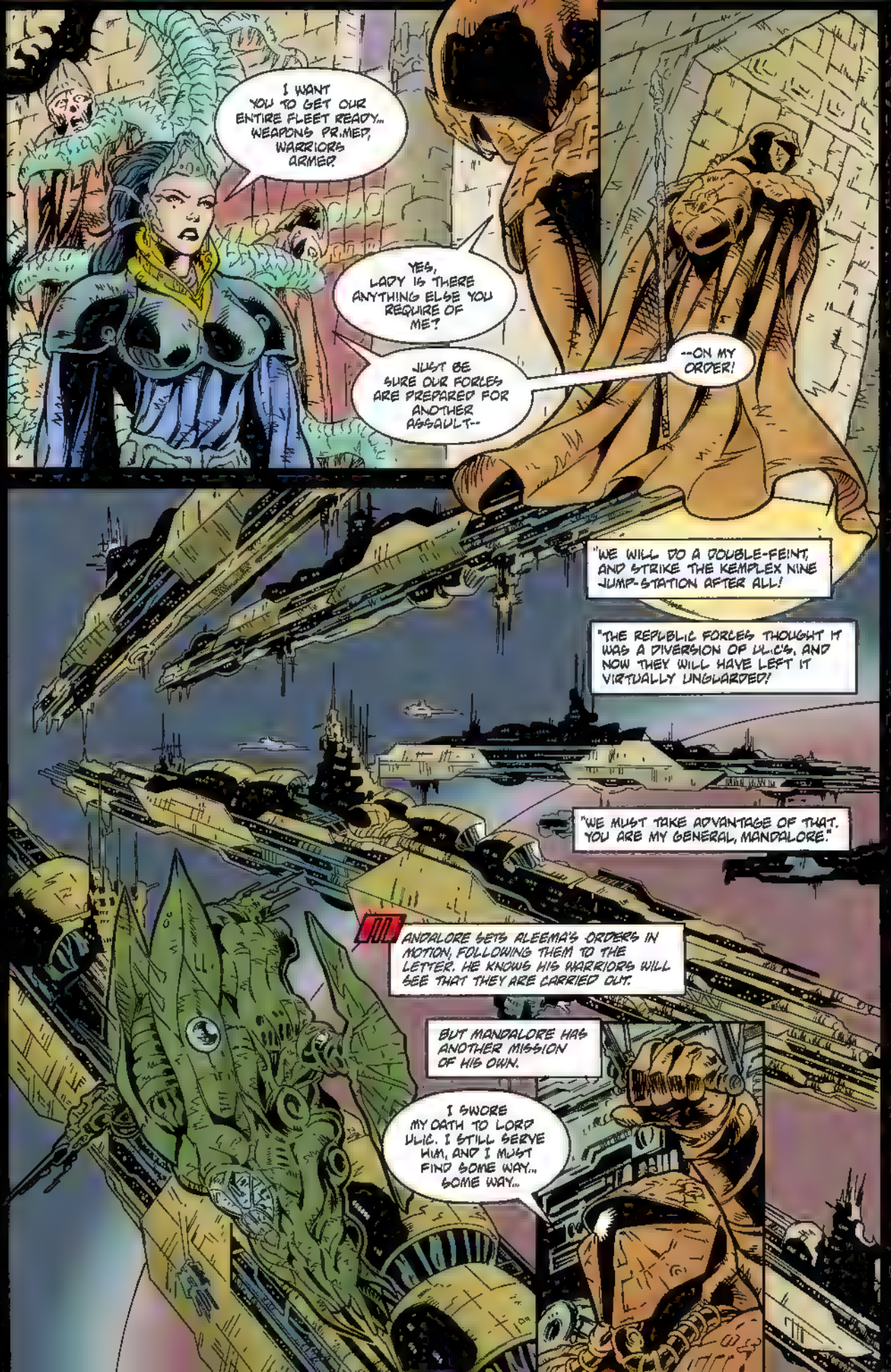
I MUST MAKE THINGS RIGHT. I MUST DO SOMETHING.

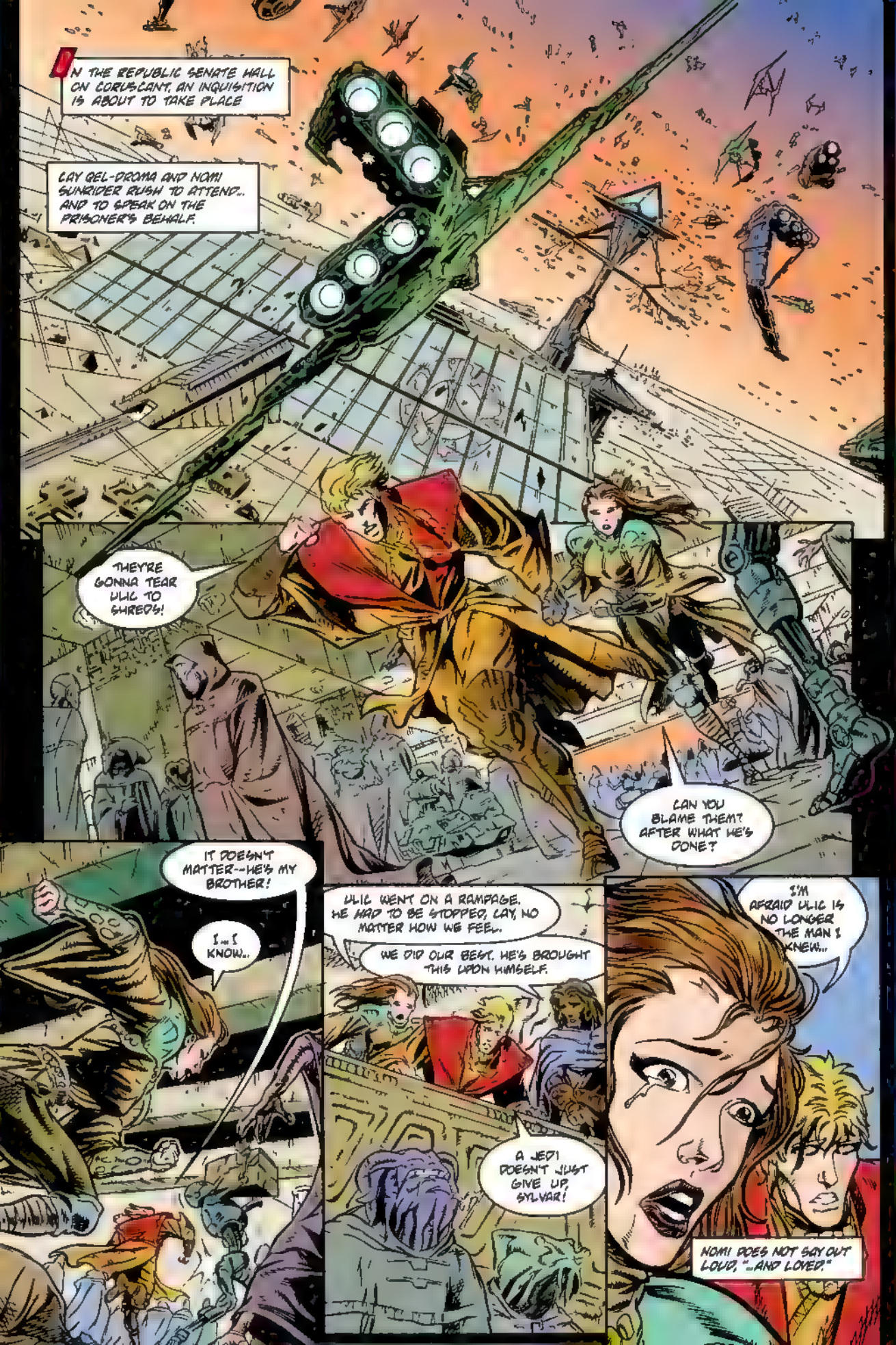
"I MUST GO TO THIS TRIAL OF ULIC QEL-DROMA. THIS MAY BE OUR LAST CHANCE...

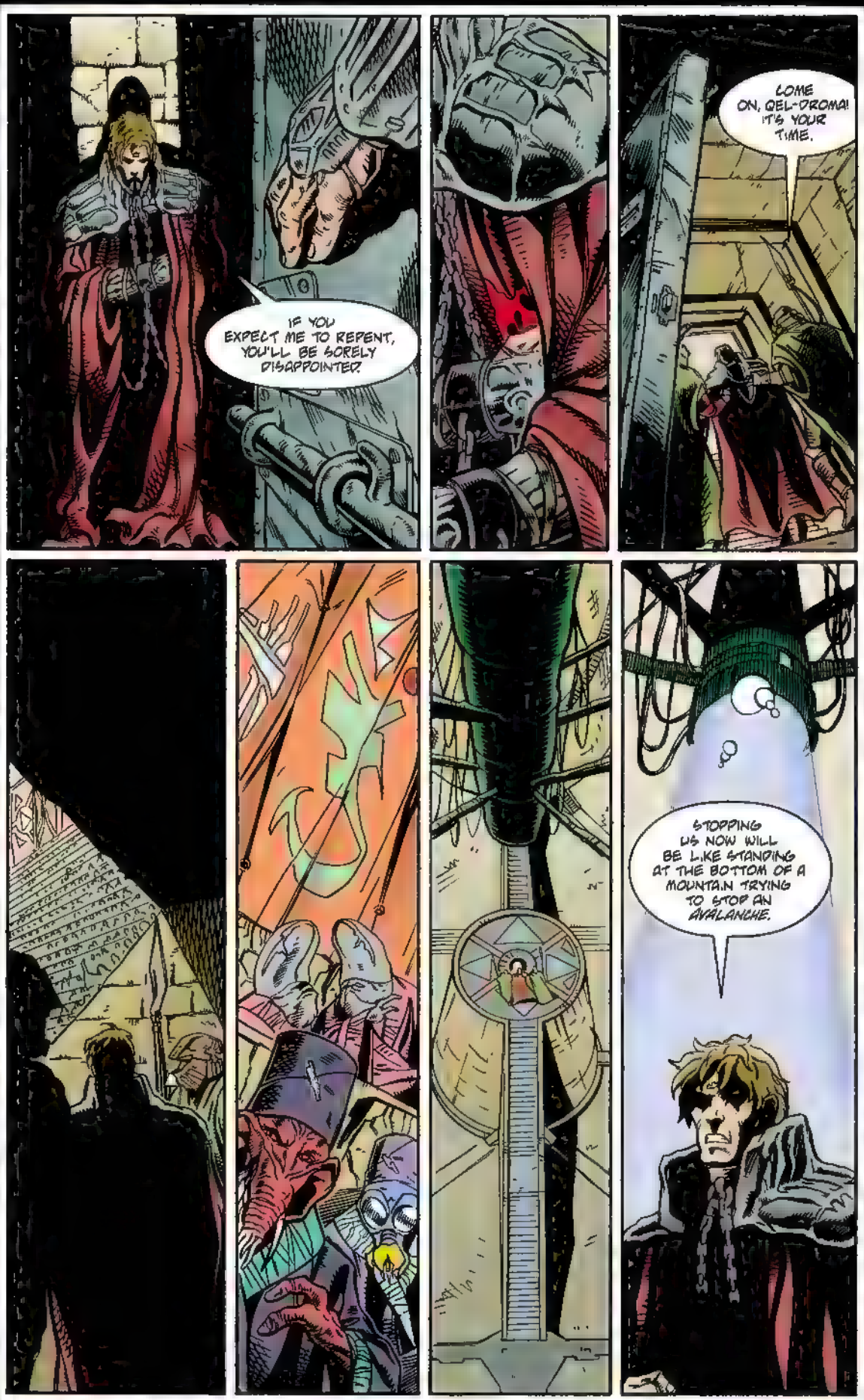
"...THIS IS MY BATTLE..."

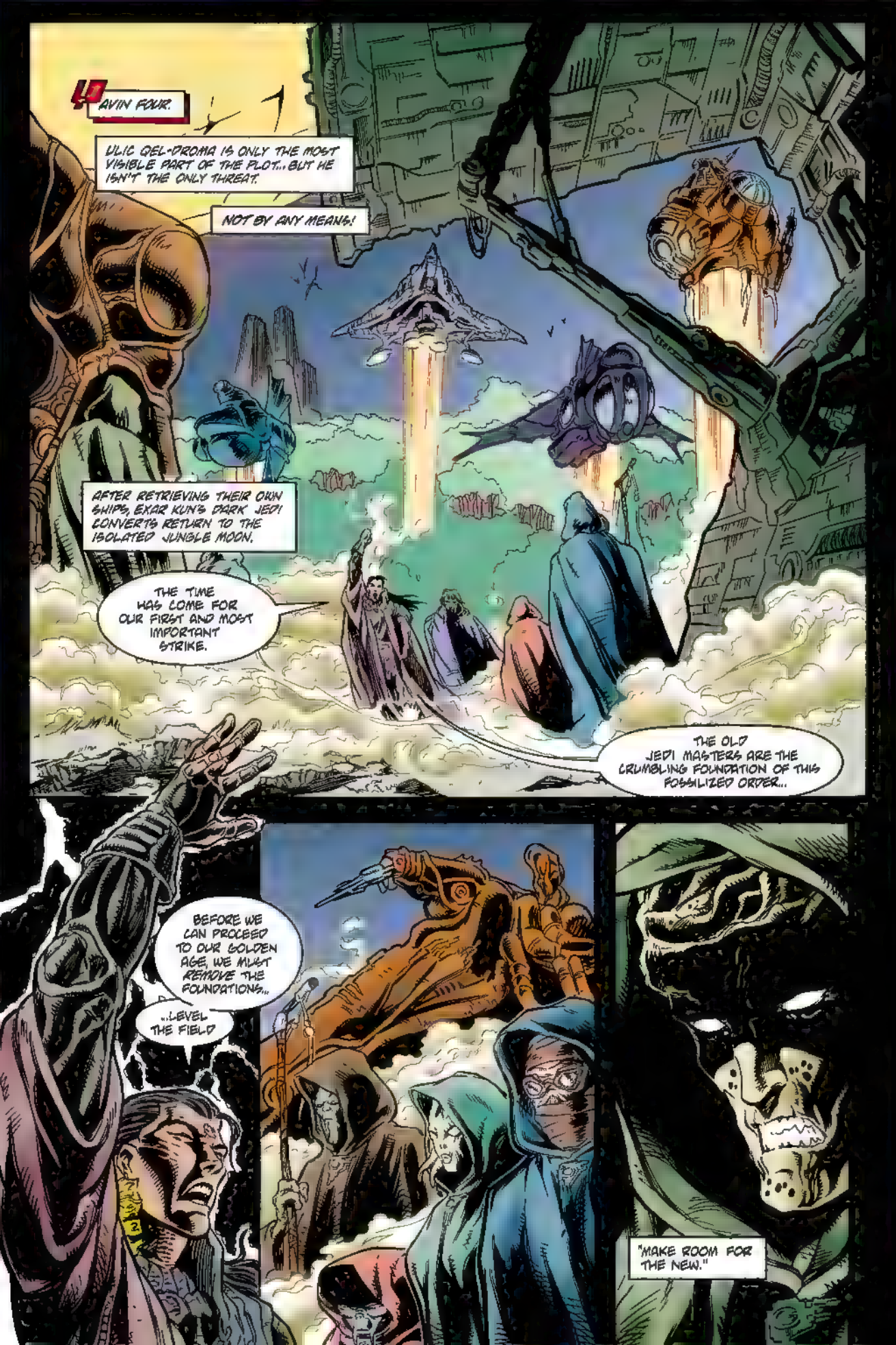

INNAGAR, IN THE EMPRESS TETA SYSTEM.
THE KRATH MUST REGROUP, NOW THAT THEIR LEADER ULIC QEL-DROMA HAS BEEN CAPTURED.
ALEEMA LEADS THEM NOW.
BUT NOT ALL OF THE INSURGENT FORCES ARE WILLING TO FORGET ABOUT ULIC SO EASILY...
THE SAME FATE AWAITS ANYONE ELSE WHO QUESTIONS MY RIGHT TO RULE THE NEW FLEET.
I WONDER HOW MANY MORE THERE WILL BE... MY PET HASN'T FED THIS WELL IN A LONG TIME!

IN THE WAR ROOM IN CINNAGAR, MANDALORE ANALYZES THE RECENT ABORTIVE ATTACK ON CORUSCANT.
WHY DID WE FAIL? MY WARRIORS MUST KNOW. OUR HONOR DEMANDS IT.
WHAT DID WE FORGET? HOW WAS MY MASTER ULIC SO EASILY CAPTURED?
OR DID ALEEMA CALL A RETREAT BEFORE THE TIDE HAD TURNED?
HAS SHE BETRAYED US? I MUST CONSIDER THIS FURTHER...
LADY ALEEMA, I HAVE COME TO DISCUSS PLANS FOR RESCUING ULIC.
WE MUST NOT LEAVE HIM A PRISONER AMONG OUR ENEMIES.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ULIC--THE JEDI WILL REPRIMAND HIM, AND HE WILL FORGET ALL ABOUT US.
I AM SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE TO OFFER YOUR STRENGTH, MANDALORE.
WE HAVE MUCH TO PLAN. WE CANNOT LOSE OUR MOMENTUM NOW--WE HAVE RISKED TOO MUCH TO DENY OURSELVES VICTORY.
WE ARE TOO BUSY. WITH ULIC CAPTURED AND EXAR KUN DABBLING WITH HIS NEW CONVERTS ON YAVIN FOUR--THIS WAR IS UP TO US.


I WANT YOU TO GET OUR ENTIRE FLEET READY... WEAPONS PRIMED, WARRIORS ARMED!
YES, LADY IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU REQUIRE OF ME?
JUST BE SURE OUR FORCES ARE PREPARED FOR ANOTHER ASSAULT--
--ON MY ORDER!
"WE WILL DO A DOUBLE-FEINT, AND STRIKE THE KEMPLEX NINE JUMP-STATION AFTER ALL!
"THE REPUBLIC FORCES THOUGHT IT WAS A DIVERSION OF ULIC'S, AND NOW THEY WILL HAVE LEFT IT VIRTUALLY UNGUARDED!
"WE MUST TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THAT. YOU ARE MY GENERAL, MANDALORE."
MANDALORE SETS ALEEMA'S ORDERS IN MOTION, FOLLOWING THEM TO THE LETTER. HE KNOWS HIS WARRIORS WILL SEE THAT THEY ARE CARRIED OUT.
BUT MANDALORE HAS ANOTHER MISSION OF HIS OWN.
I SWORE MY OATH TO LORD ULIC. I STILL SERVE HIM, AND I MUST FIND SOME WAY... SOME WAY...

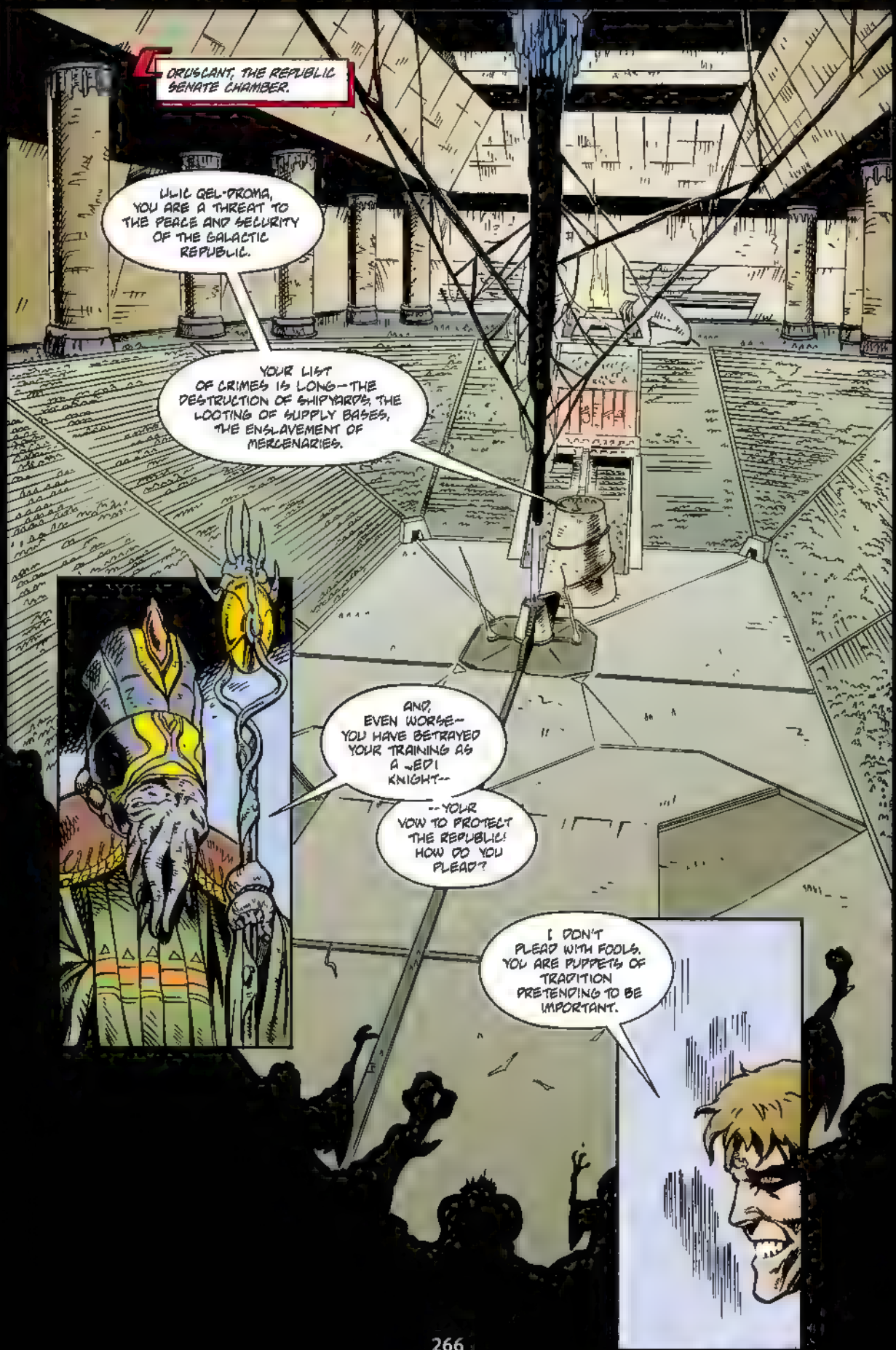

IN THE REPUBLIC SENATE HALL ON CORUSCANT, AN INQUISITION IS ABOUT TO TAKE PLACE
LAY GEL-DROMA AND NOMI SUNRIDER RUSH TO ATTEND.. AND TO SPEAK ON THE PRISONER'S BEHALF.
THEY'RE GONNA TEAR ULIC TO SHREDS!
CAN YOU BLAME THEM? AFTER WHAT HE'S DONE?
IT DOESN'T MATTER--HE'S MY BROTHER!
I... I KNOW..
ULIC WENT ON A RAMPAGE. HE HAD TO BE STOPPED, LAY, NO MATTER HOW WE FEEL.
WE DID OUR BEST. HE'S BROUGHT THIS UPON HIMSELF.
A JEDI DOESN'T JUST GIVE UP, SYLVAR!
I'M AFRAID ULIC IS NO LONGER THE MAN I KNEW...
NOMI DOES NOT SAY OUT LOUD, "...AND LOVED."


IF YOU EXPECT ME TO REPENT, YOU'LL BE SORELY DISAPPOINTED.
COME ON, QEL-DROMA! IT'S YOUR TIME.
STOPPING US NOW WILL BE LIKE STANDING AT THE BOTTOM OF A MOUNTAIN TRYING TO STOP AN AVALANCHE.


YAVIN FOUR.
ULIC QEL-DROMA IS ONLY THE MOST VISIBLE PART OF THE PLOT... BUT HE ISN'T THE ONLY THREAT.
NOT BY ANY MEANS!
AFTER RETRIEVING THEIR OWN SHIPS, EXAR KUN'S DARK JEDI COVERTS RETURN TO THE ISOLATED JUNGLE MOON.
THE TIME WAS COME FOR OUR FIRST AND MOST IMPORTANT STRIKE.
THE OLD JEDI MASTERS ARE THE CRUMBLING FOUNDATION OF THIS FOSSILIZED ORDER...
BEFORE WE CAN PROCEED TO OUR GOLDEN AGE, WE MUST REMOVE THE FOUNDATIONS...
..LEVEL THE FIELD
"MAKE ROOM FOR THE NEW."

GO AND STRIKE DOWN YOUR OWN JEDI MASTERS! THEY WILL SUSPECT NOTHING...UNTIL IT IS TOO LATE.
WE WILL BE LIKE A KNIFE IN THE NIGHT--FAST, SILENT, AND DEADLY!
WHAT...WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO, EXAR? AM I SUPPOSED TO...KILL MASTER VOOD?
NO, LRAGO--GO WITH OGS WILUM.
"HE MAY NEED YOUR HELP. MASTER THON WILL BE DIFFICULT.
"LEAVE VOOD TO ME..."
BUT AS THE SHIPS DEPART ON THEIR INSIDIOUS MISSION, ANOTHER CRAFT ARRIVES, UNEXPECTEDLY.

EXAR KUN, I MUST SPEAK WITH YOU.
I HAVE BURNED OUT MY ENGINES TO COME HERE AS FAST AS I COULD.
MY MASTER, ULIC QEL-DROMA, HAS BEEN CAPTURED. THE REPUBLIC WILL PLACE HIM ON TRIAL.
I MUST RESCUE HIM... OR DIE TRYING.
AND YOU WANT MY HELP.
VERY WELL. LET'S GO FREE POOR ULIC. PERHAPS HE'LL TAKE MY ADVICE FROM NOW ON WHEN I WARN HIM AGAINST RASH ACTIONS...
...AND WE CAN SHOW THE REPUBLIC THAT THEY HAVE NO HOPE AGAINST US.


CORUSCANT, THE REPUBLIC SENATE CHAMBER.
ULIC QEL-DROMA, YOU ARE A THREAT TO THE PEACE AND SECURITY OF THE GALACTIC REPUBLIC.
YOUR LIST OF CRIMES IS LONG--THE DESTRUCTION OF SHIPYARDS, THE LOOTING OF SUPPLY BASES, THE ENSLAVEMENT OF MERCENARIES.
AND, EVEN WORSE--YOU HAVE BETRAYED YOUR TRAINING AS A JEDI KNIGHT--
--YOUR VOW TO PROTECT THE REPUBLIC! HOW DO YOU PLEAD?
I DON'T PLEAD WITH FOOLS. YOU ARE PUPPETS OF TRADITION PRETENDING TO BE IMPORTANT.

"THE COMING GOLDEN AGE HAS NO PLACE FOR YOU.
"YOUR REPUBLIC IS AN EMPTY, SELF-INDULGENT DIVERSION...
"...SIGNIFYING NOTHING."
THE LOST GLORY OF THE SITH WILL TURN ALL OF YOUR SUPPOSED ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DUST!
ULIC, WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? WAIT! I'LL MAKE THEM LISTEN!
CAY, STOP THIS! I DON'T NEED YOUR HELP.
SENATORS, I BEG YOU, DON'T LISTEN TO HIM. HE IS GREATLY DISTURBED BY THE DEATH OF MASTER ARCA. HE INTENDED TO INFILTRATE THE KRATH, BUT THEY HAVE...WARPED HIM SOMEHOW.
HE HAS DONE SO MUCH GOOD SERVICE FOR THE REPUBLIC. PLEASE REMEMBER--

CAY, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT'S GOING ON HERE. YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING.
JUST TRYING TO HELP MY OWN BROTHER.
CLANK
EXCUSE ME, MIGHT I JOIN THE DISCUSS.ON? I'VE GOT SOMETHING I'M SURE YOU'LL FIND INTERESTING.
BOOOM BOOOM

IT'S ABOUT TIME, EXAR KUN!
DIDN'T MASTER ARCA TEACH YOU PATIENCE, ULIC? MY MASTER VOOD WAS ALWAYS TRYING TO GET ME TO LEARN.
THE ENTIRE CHAMBER IS FROZEN, FORCED TO WATCH AND NOT REACT. EXAR KUN'S SITH SPELL HAS WORKED SILENTLY, AND PERFECTLY.
I HAVE SWORN MY LOYALTY TO YOU, LORD ULIC. FORGIVE ME FOR TAKING SO LONG TO ARRIVE.
THANKS, MANDALORE. I'M IMPRESSED AT THE DEPTH OF YOUR DEVOTION.
CAY, PUT THAT AWAY! YOU CAN'T FIGHT US.
ULIC, STOP THIS! IT'S US!
NOM!-- I'VE TOLD YOU TIME AND AGAIN TO STOP INTERFERING. I HAVE... I HAVE MADE MY OWN CHOICE.
DON'T FORCE ME TO HURT YOU.

WHERE IS MY MATE LRADO?
HE ALWAYS IDOLIZED YOU, EXAR KUN. WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH HIM?
EXAR KUN REMEMBERS THE SCAR SYLVAR GAVE HIM...
BUT THE CATHAR WOMAN IS NO LONGER OF ANY CONSEQUENCE TO HIM..
MY FRIEND LRADO IS LEARNING WAYS TO MAKE HIMSELF STRONG-- MUCH STRONGER THAN YOU, SYLVAR.
I'VE SENT HIM OFF ON AN ERRAND..
ULIC, KEEP THEM OCCUPIED.

WHO ARE YOU? WHAT IS THIS? GUARDS!
I'M AFRAID EVERYONE ELSE IS PREOCCUPIED...
I JUST WANTED TO SAY THAT YOU, AND THE WHOLE REPUBLIC SENATE, ARE IRRELEVANT. THE JEDI KNIGHTS HAVE CODDLED YOU FOR CENTURIES.
YOU ARE OUTDATED AND INEFFECTIVE..
...PUPPETS TO TRADITION...
GO ON, SHOW US!
WE ARE PUPPETS.. IRRELEVANT.

THE SITH EMPIRE WILL RISE AGAIN, AND WE ARE THE SPARK.
...WE ARE THE SPARK...
"THE FLAMES WILL WASH OVER THE CRUMBLING REPUBLIC AND CONSUME ALL YOUR WORKS...
"...ESTABLISHING THE GLORIOUS DAYS OF A LOST GOLDEN AGE, FAR GREATER THAN ANY OF US CAN KNOW.
"YOU CAN CHOOSE EITHER TO BE A PART OF THIS GREAT REBIRTH, OR YOU CAN STAND IN OUR WAY."
IT DOESN'T MATTER TO US--WE WILL SUCCEED, WITH YOU OR AGAINST YOU.
"LOOK, ULIC--THEY'RE SPEECHLESS."

WE DID ALL THIS TO SHOW HOW USELESS AND INEFFECTIVE THE REPUBLIC IS. WE DON'T WANT YOUR COOPERATION.
THE REPUBLIC IS NOT EVEN PART OF THE PLAN
ULIC— WHAT'S GOING ON? STOP THIS!
MY BROTHER, EITHER COME WITH ME NOW-- OR LEAVE ME ALONE! I HAVE IMPORTANT WORK TO DO.
YOU'LL HAVE TO KILL ME IF YOU WANT TO STOP ME.
I... CAN'T.
I WILL.
BUT IT IS EXAR KUN WHO MUST BE STOPPED... NOT ULIC.

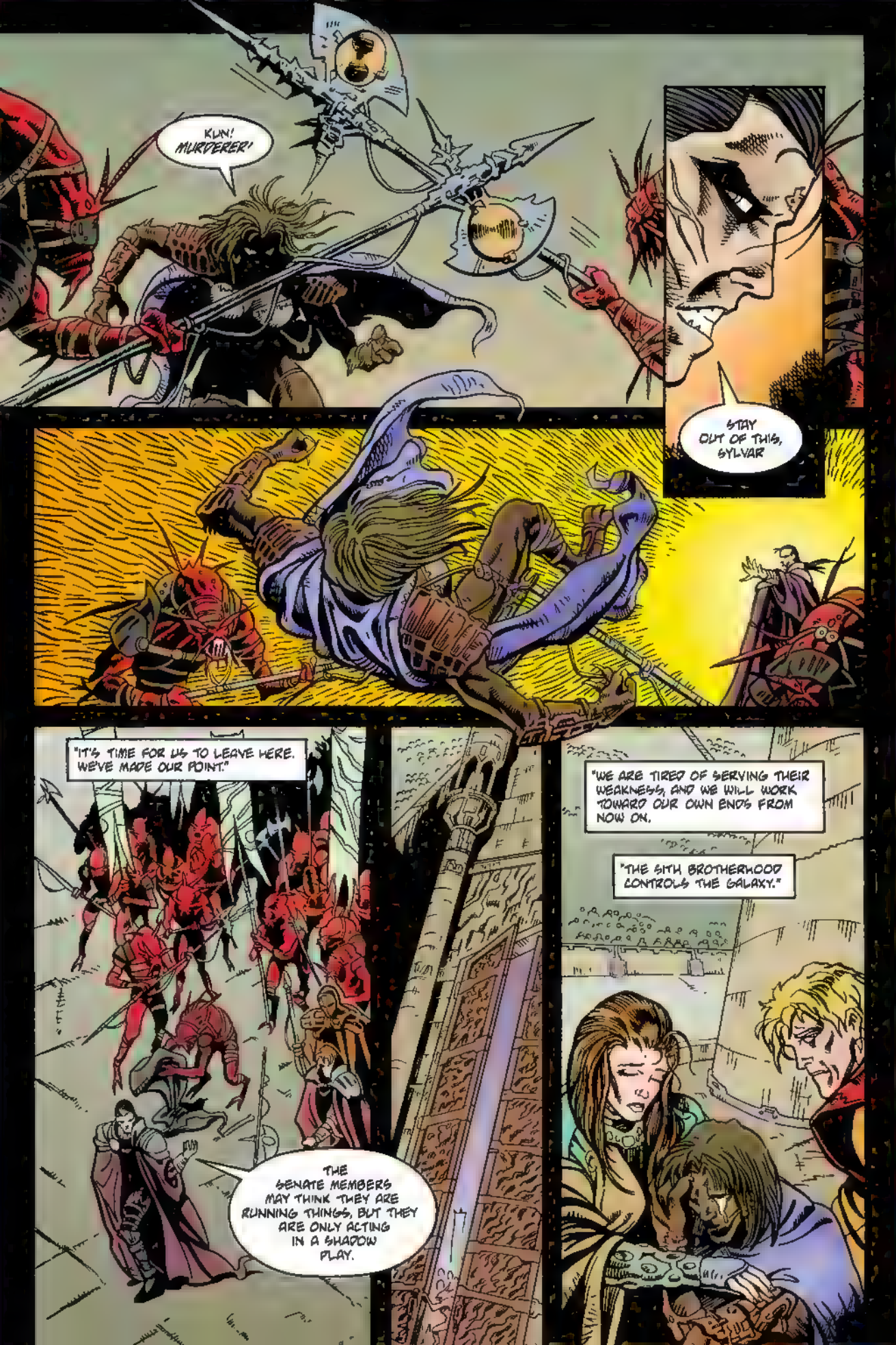
MASTER VODO!
SYLVAR, I MUST DO THIS MYSELF.
YES, I BELIEVE MASTER VODO AND I HAVE SOME PRIVATE BUSINESS.
DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE COME TO JOIN OUR SITH CAUSE, MASTER VODO?
EXAR KUN, I MUST SPEAK WITH YOU!
"GO RIGHT AHEAD, MASTER...
"...WE SEEM TO HAVE A CAPTIVE AUDIENCE!"
YOU HAVE BEEN BUSY, EXAR KUN... BUILDING... PLANNING... DESTROYING.
YOU SHOULD SEE ALL I HAVE ACCOMPLISHED. IT'S MAGNIFICENT! BETTER THAN ANYTHING IN THE HOLOCRON!

I COULD USE YOU, MASTER VOOD.. YOU COULD BE A GREAT ALLY TO OUR SITH BROTHERHOOD.
YOU KNOW I MUST SAY NO.
A PITY.. YOU FOUGHT ME ONCE, MASTER VOOD-- AND BESTED ME..
WHY DON'T WE TRY IT AGAIN.. A REMATCH? ONLY THIS TIME WE UP THE STAKES--
--IF YOU BEAT ME, I WILL RETURN WITH YOU AND UNDERGO WHATEVER TRAINING YOU WISH TO GIVE..
"BUT IF I WIN, YOU AGREE TO JOIN THE SITH BROTHERHOOD AND WORK AT MY SIDE."
YOU KNOW I COULD NEVER BOW TO THE EVIL SITH WAYS.
WHATEVER.. WE CAN WORK OUT THE DETAILS LATER.

I BESEECH YOU TO RECONSIDER YOUR ACTIONS AND RETURN WITH ME. STOP THIS GAME OF BULLYING THE GALAXY--IT'S BENEATH YOU, AND BENEATH CONTEMPT! IT OFFENDS THE JEDI WAY.
AND WHAT CAN YOU POSSIBLY OFFER ME, MASTER YODA? I'VE ALREADY HEARD YOUR TEACHINGS--AND FOUND THEM WANTING!
BY MYSELF, I HAVE BUILT HUNDREDS OF TEMPLES, UNEARTHED AN ANCIENT SHIP, STUDIED THE TEACHINGS YOU AND THE OTHER JEDI MASTERS ARE AFRAID TO KNOW.
SEE HOW POWERFUL THE SITH TEACHINGS ARE... IF THEY ARE USED CORRECTLY.

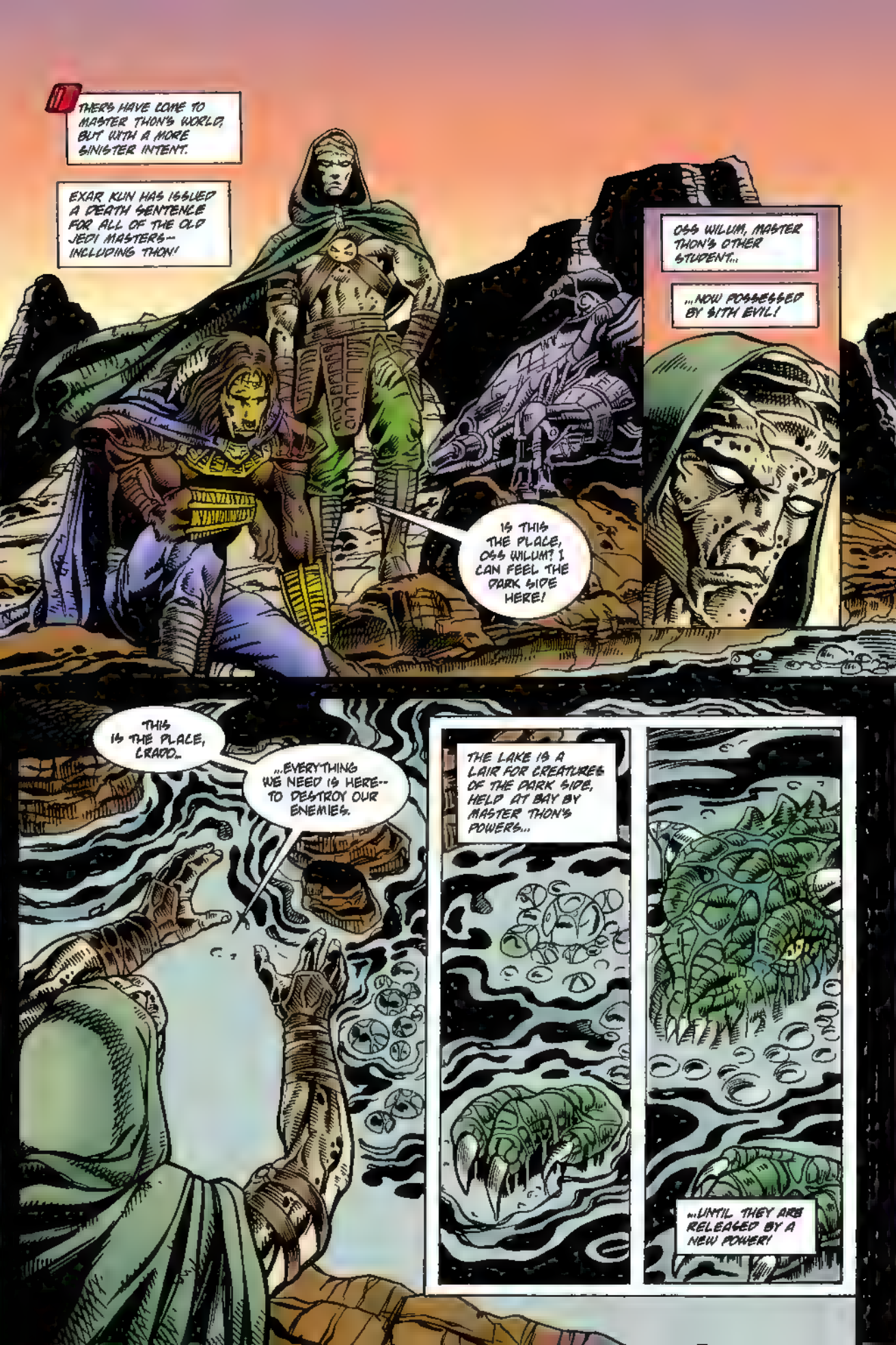
TIME TO MAKE THIS MORE INTERESTING... DO YOU LIKE THE MODIFICATIONS I MADE TO MY LIGHTSABER, MASTER?

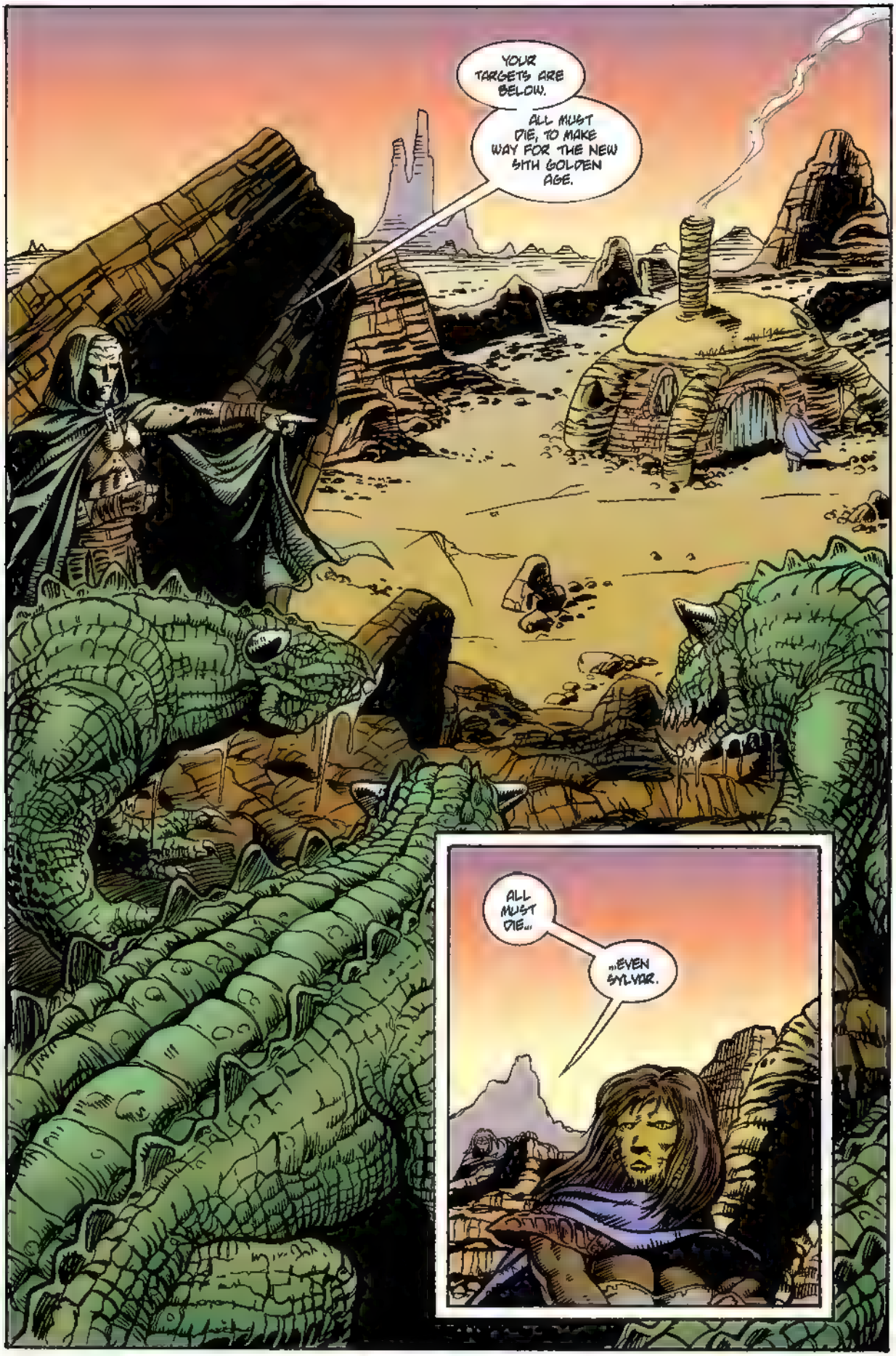
JOIN ME, MASTER VODO.
THIS IS NOT THE END, EXAR KUN.
YOU AND I WILL FIGHT AGAIN... PERHAPS NOT FOR A LONG TIME, BUT I WILL DEFEAT YOU.
WORDS. GO ON TO YOUR HIGHER PLANE, TEACHER. THE GALAXY IS MINE NOW.
LIKE WHISPERS FROM THE PAST, EXAR KUN RECALLS WORDS THAT MASTER VODO ONCE SAID TO HIM... "I SENSE SOMETHING MISSING IN YOU-- AN EMPTY PLACE HIDDEN EVEN FROM YOURSELF... A PLACE THAT REMAINS UNSEEN BECAUSE NO LIGHT ESCAPES FROM THAT REGION OF YOUR HEART."


KUN! MURDERER!
STAY OUT OF THIS, SYLVAR
"IT'S TIME FOR US TO LEAVE HERE. WE'VE MADE OUR POINT."
THE SENATE MEMBERS MAY THINK THEY ARE RUNNING THINGS, BUT THEY ARE ONLY ACTING IN A SHADOW PLAY.
"WE ARE TIRED OF SERVING THEIR WEAKNESS, AND WE WILL WORK TOWARD OUR OWN ENDS FROM NOW ON.
"THE SITH BROTHERHOOD CONTROLS THE GALAXY."

AVIN FOUR.
YOUR CAPTURE ON CORUSCANT WAS NO ACCIDENT, MY LORD ULIC...
...YOU WERE BETRAYED BY ALEEMA. I HAVE PROOF.
SHE HAS ALWAYS MANIPULATED ME... FIRST THROUGH TORTURE, THEN POISON...
...THEN LOVE.
SHE TRICKED ME INTO KILLING HER COUSIN, SATAL KETO, TO INCREASE HER OWN POWER...
...THEN SHE WANTED TO GET RID OF ME...
...SO THAT SHE MIGHT CONTROL EVERYTHING...
...BUT WE KNOW HOW TO DEAL WITH TRAITORS--NO MATTER WHO THEY ARE.
OUR PLANS ARE PROCEEDING. WITHIN DAYS OUR MILITARY STRIKES WILL BE LIKE A FIRESTORM ACROSS THE GALAXY.
ULIC!
THE REPUBLIC AND THE JEDI CAN DO NOTHING...AS WE'VE ALREADY PROVED!
I'M GLAD TO BE HERE WITH YOU, ULIC... WILL YOU BE LEADING THE ATTACK?
NO, ALEEMA... I THINK WE'LL LET YOU HAVE THE HONOR.
DESPITE ALEEMA'S SEDUCTIVE ATTENTIONS, ULIC QEL-DROMA IS FAR MORE TROUBLED BY HIS MEMORIES OF NOMI SUNRIDER...

ABRIA, IN THE STENNESS SYSTEM.
AFTER THE TRIAL OF ULIC QEL-DROMA AND THE MURDER OF MASTER VODO, NOMI SUNRIDER HAS RETURNED TO A PLACE OF POWERFUL MEMORIES FOR HER...TO MASTER THON, HER FIRST TEACHER.
MASTER THON!
DESPITE HER JEDI POWERS, NOMI FEELS HELPLESS. SHE AND HER FRIEND, SYLVAR, HAVE COME FOR QUIET HEALING...
...AND FOR FURTHER TRAINING.
NARRTH LHA! I SEE YOU HAVE BROUGHT THE CHILD VIMA.
GOOD. LHHHER. ONE DAY SHE WILL BE A JEDI HERSELF.
WE APPRECIATE YOUR WISDOM, MASTER THON.
FASTER! FASTER!
NARRR A TRUE JEDI NEVER STOPS LEARNING. HERE YOU WILL HAVE PEACE FOR CONTEMPLATION.


THERS HAVE COME TO MASTER THON'S WORLD, BUT WITH A MORE SINISTER INTENT.
EXAR KUN HAS ISSUED A DEATH SENTENCE FOR ALL OF THE OLD JEDI MASTERS-- INCLUDING THON!
OSS WILUM, MASTER THON'S OTHER STUDENT...
...NOW POSSESSED BY SITH EVIL!
IS THIS THE PLACE, OSS WILUM? I CAN FEEL THE DARK SIDE HERE!
THIS IS THE PLACE, LRADD..
...EVERYTHING WE NEED IS HERE-- TO DESTROY OUR ENEMIES.
THE LAKE IS A LAIR FOR CREATURES OF THE DARK SIDE, HELD AT BAY BY MASTER THON'S POWERS...
...UNTIL THEY ARE RELEASED BY A NEW POWER!


YOUR TARGETS ARE BELOW.
ALL MUST DIE, TO MAKE WAY FOR THE NEW SITH GOLDEN AGE.
ALL MUST DIE...
...EVEN SYLVAR.

SENSING THE IMPENDING ATTACK, THE JEDI RALLY AGAINST THE VICIOUS DARK SIDE MONSTERS.

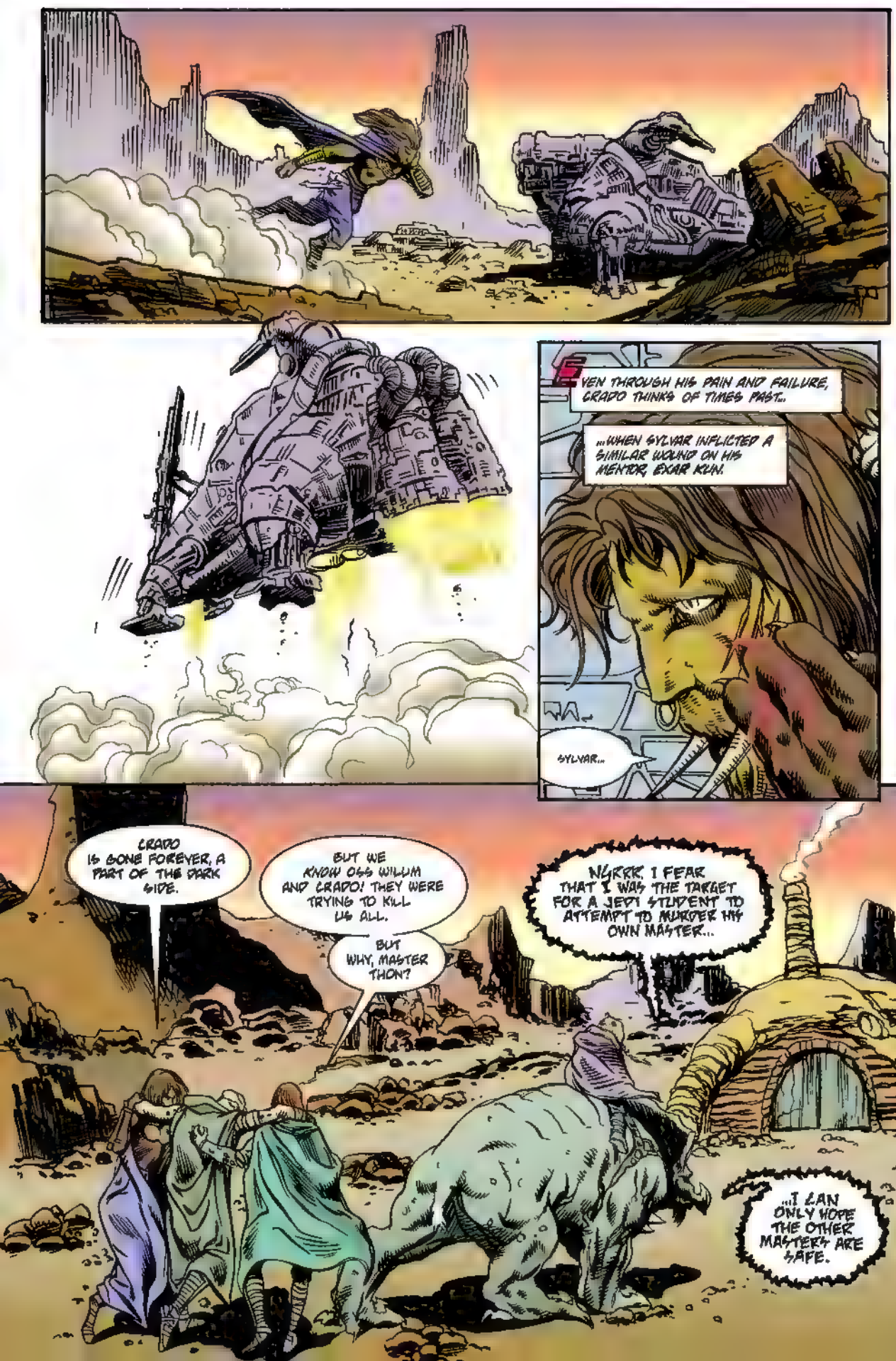
OAS WILLIA USES HIS SITH POWERS TO CONTROL THE BEASTS...

...TO FORCE THEM TO KILL!

NOMI SUNRIDER USES THE SKILLS OF JEDI BATTLE MEDITATION SHE HAS LEARNED...

...TO DISTRACT AND DEFEAT THE DARK SIDE MONSTERS.

SZZRK! IT IS AN EVIL DAY. I HAVE BEEN DRIVEN TO KILL.
YOU'VE ALREADY CAUSED ENOUGH HARM, DARKSIDER!
OSS WILUM, MY OWN STUDENT!
NGRK TSSHH. WHERE DID I FAIL YOU?
SEEING HIS 6TH ACCOMPLICE FALL, CRADO KNOWS HE CANNOT FIGHT THESE JEDI HIMSELF...
...BUT HE DOESN'T BELIEVE HIS FORMER LOVER, SYLVAR, WILL HARM HIM.
SYLVAR! DON'T--!
CRADO, TRAITOR!
MURDERER!
MASTER VODO IS DEAD, AND YOU HELPED EXAR KUN!
AAARKKHH!


EVEN THROUGH HIS PAIN AND FAILURE, CRADO THINKS OF TIMES PAST..
...WHEN SYLVAR INFLICTED A SIMILAR WOUND ON HIS MENTOR, EXAR KUN.
SYLVAR...
CRADO IS GONE FOREVER, A PART OF THE DARK SIDE.
BUT WE KNOW OGG WILLUM AND CRADO! THEY WERE TRYING TO KILL US ALL.
BUT WHY, MASTER THON?
NURRR. I FEAR THAT I WAS THE TARGET FOR A JEDI STUDENT TO ATTEMPT TO MURDER HIS OWN MASTER...
...I CAN ONLY HOPE THE OTHER MASTERS ARE SAFE.

BUT ELSEWHERE ACROSS THE GALACTIC REPUBLIC...

...THE OTHER JEDI MASTERS ARE NOT SAFE!

THE POGROM CONTINUES, UNDER THE ORDERS OF EXAR KUN...

...STUDENT KILLING MASTER...

...THE LIGHT SIDE OF THE FORCE IS STRUCK DOWN BY EVIL SITH MAGIC.

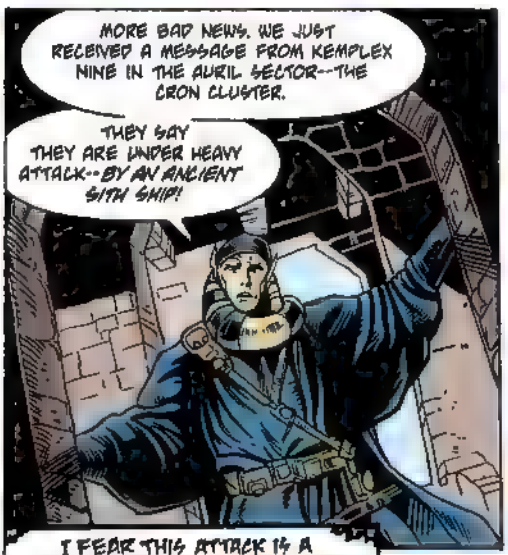
THE SITH EMPIRE MUST RISE AGAIN...
...BUT THE OLD JEDI MASTERS STAND IN OUR WAY.
YOU WERE MY DEAREST STUDENT, ZONA LUKA...
NOTHING PERSONAL, MASTER DOMINUS...
...BUT I HAVE SWORN TO FIGHT FOR THE LIGHT SIDE...
...EVEN AGAINST YOU.

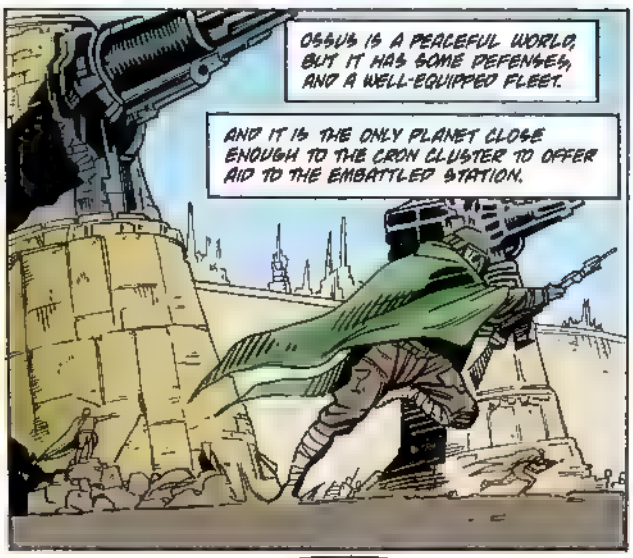
IN THE WAKE OF THE SITH ASSASSIN ATTACKS, THREE JEDI KNIGHTS STUMBLE UPON A SCENE OF CARNAGE.
SADLY, THIS IS NOT THE FIRST FALLEN JEDI MASTER FOUND BY QRRL TOQ, PACE PIATH, AND SHOANEB CULU.
WHY WOULD ANYONE WANT TO KILL MASTER DOMINUS?
LOOKS LIKE HE PUT UP A GOOD FIGHT.
THIS IS THE CAUSE OF THE GREAT DISTURBANCE IN THE FORCE THAT I SAW WITH MY INNER VISION.
ZONA LUKA!
BUT WHY WOULD SHE ATTACK HER OWN MASTER?
"SHE MUST HAVE HAD POWERFUL WEAPONS."
THIS IS A BLOW TO OUR HEARTS. JUST LIKE THE DEATH OF MASTER YODO.
THIS WAR OF THE SITH IS SPREAD BY MILITARY MIGHT AND EVIL USE OF THE FORCE--
--BY ULIC QEL-DROMA AND EXAR KUN!

AVIN FOUR, INSIDE THE GREAT MASSASSI TEMPLE.
WE FAILED YOU, EXAR! I FAILED!
OSS WILUM WAS CAPTURED AND MASTER THON STILL LIVES.
THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO!
A MINOR SETBACK, CRADO, MY FRIEND.
I BEG YOU TO GIVE ME ANOTHER CHANCE! LET ME BE A GREAT COMMANDER LIKE YOU! PLEASE!
IF IT MEANS THAT MUCH TO YOU, CRADO...
...YES, WE ARE ABOUT TO EMBARK ON OUR NEXT BIG MILITARY OPERATION, AND I SUPPOSE YOU COULD HAVE A VERY BIG PART IN IT.
THANKS TO ULIC, ALEEMA HAS ALREADY BEEN CHOSEN TO LEAD THIS STRIKE.
CRADO WILL BE HER BATTLE COMMANDER.
YES, EXAR!
WE WILL STRIKE AT KEMPLEX NINE IN THE AURIL SECTOR. IT IS AN IMPORTANT JUMP-STATION. WE CAN LURE MUCH OF THE REPUBLIC FLEET THERE--
AND DESTROY THEM WITH SITH MAGIC! EXAR KUN, SHOW ME THIS ANCIENT WEAPON YOU PROMISED!

INSIDE THE CONTROL ROOM OF NAGA SADOW'S ANCIENT SITH SHIP...
A THOUSAND YEARS AGO, ONE OF MY PREDECESSORS, THE DARK LORD NAGA SADOW, USED THIS SHIP TO FLEE REPUBLIC FIGHTERS
HERE IS THE POWER TO WRENCH FIRE FROM THE STARS...LET ME SHOW YOU HOW TO USE IT, ALEEMA.
YES! I CAN SENSE THE SITH POWER VIBRATING THROUGH THE WALLS.
THIS IS IMPRESSIVE, EXAR!
I AM YOUR WAR COMMANDER, LORD ULIC! HAVE I DISAPPOINTED YOU IN SOME WAY? WHY DO YOU DENY ME THE CHANCE TO LEAD THIS MISSION?
WHY DO YOU GIVE IT TO...HER? YOU KNOW WHAT SHE HAS DONE TO YOU IN SECRET.
YES, I KNOW SHE IS A VILE TRAITOR WHO PRETENDS TO LOVE ME.
BUT BY KNOWING ALEEMA'S TREACHERY, I CAN ALLOW HER TO SERVE OUR CAUSE IN ONE FINAL WAY.
IF ONLY CRADO WASN'T SO EAGER. HE IS COMPLETELY LOYAL...
...BUT HE'S WEAK--AND BECOMING A NUISANCE.
BEFORE THE FINAL DEPARTURE OF THE ASSAULT FLEET AGAINST KEMPLEX NINE...
WHAT'S TROUBLING YOU, ULIC? I'LL BRING US GLORY!
NOTHING... GOOD LUCK.
I WON'T LET YOU DOWN, EXAR! WE'LL DEFEAT THOSE JEDI.
YES, CRADO. YOU WILL HELP BRING ABOUT OUR ULTIMATE VICTORY.
AND WHEN THIS BATTLE IS FINISHED, WE'LL MARCH IN TO OSSUS AND TAKE EVERYTHING OF VALUE TO THE JEDI KNIGHTS!

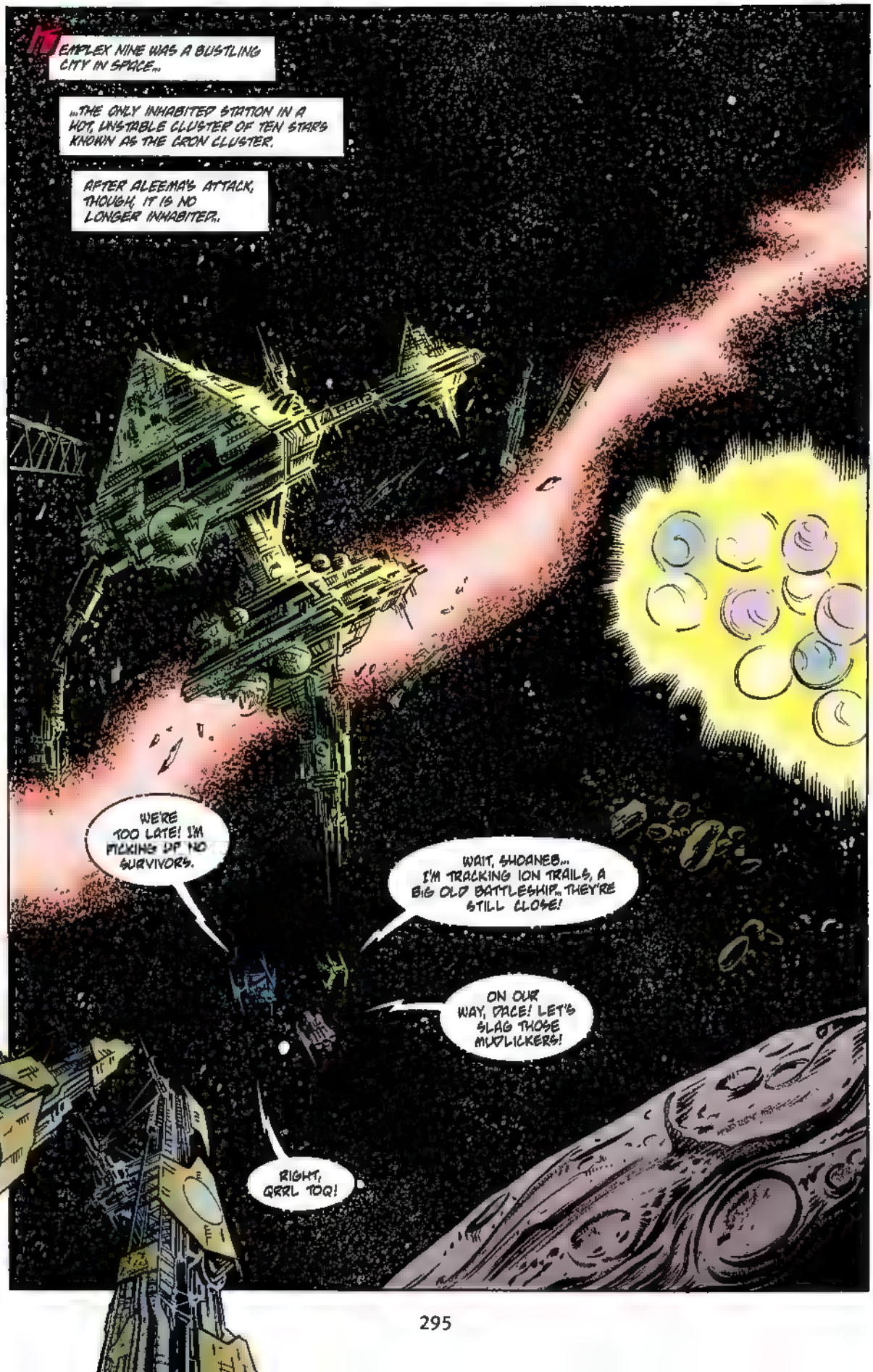
AT THE GREAT LIBRARY ON OSSUS, JEDI KNIGHTS GATHER TO EXPRESS THEIR OUTRAGE.
EIGHT GREAT JEDI MASTERS DEAD IN THESE BRUTAL ASSASSINATIONS!
HOW CAN I NOT FEEL RESPONSIBLE?! MY BROTHER, ULIC, HAS JOINED FORCES WITH EXAR KUN!
THIS IS THEIR DOING!
YES...IT'S ULIC. HE HAS NEVER FOUND HIS WAY BACK FROM THE DARK PATH.
CRADO IS WITH THEM AS WELL.
NGRRA PSHH! WE MUST PUT OUR FEELINGS ASIDE.
THIS IS A WAR OF LIGHT AND DARKNESS.

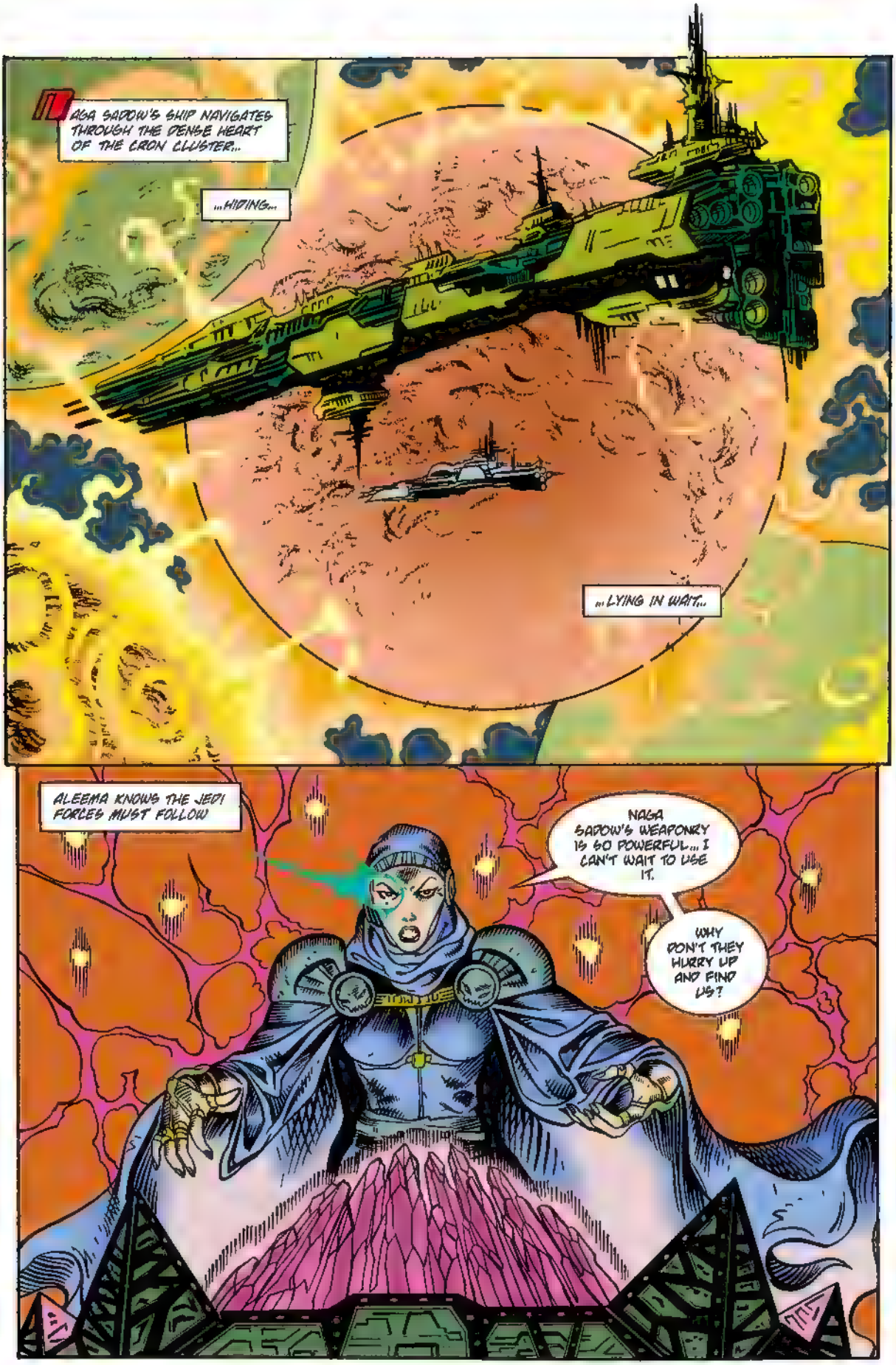

MORE BAD NEWS. WE JUST RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM KEMPLEX NINE IN THE AURIL SECTOR--THE CRON CLUSTER.
THEY SAY THEY ARE UNDER HEAVY ATTACK--BY AN ANCIENT SITH SHIP!


OSSUS IS A PEACEFUL WORLD, BUT IT HAS SOME DEFENSES, AND A WELL-EQUIPPED FLEET.
AND IT IS THE ONLY PLANET CLOSE ENOUGH TO THE CRON CLUSTER TO OFFER AID TO THE EMBATTLED STATION.

I FEAR THIS ATTACK IS A FEINT. WHAT COULD THEY WANT AT KEMPLEX NINE?
EVERYTHING EXAR KUN COULD DESIRE IS HERE ON OSSUS. WE MUST BE VIGILANT.

LET THE THREE OF US LEAD THE COUNTERATTACK ON KEMPLEX NINE. WE'LL TAKE COMMAND OF THE FLEET.
YEAH, GIVE US SHIPS AND WE'LL SCORCH THOSE JEDI KILLERS!
YES, THE REST OF YOU STAY HERE AND PROTECT OSSUS.

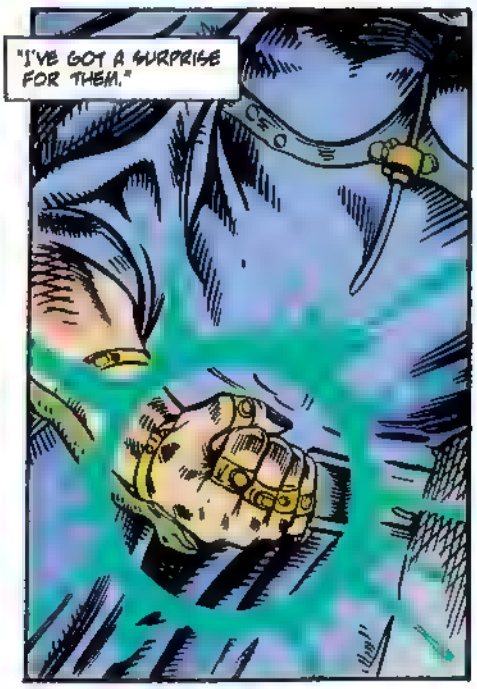

EMPLEX NINE WAS A BUSTLING CITY IN SPACE...
...THE ONLY INHABITED STATION IN A HOT, UNSTABLE CLUSTER OF TEN STARS KNOWN AS THE CRON CLUSTER.
AFTER ALEEMA'S ATTACK, THOUGH, IT IS NO LONGER INHABITED..
WE'RE TOO LATE! I'M PICKING UP NO SURVIVORS.
WAIT, SHOANEB... I'M TRACKING ION TRAILS, A BIG OLD BATTLESHIP... THEY'RE STILL CLOSE!
ON OUR WAY, DACE! LET'S SLAG THOSE MUDLICKERS!
RIGHT, QRRL TOQ!

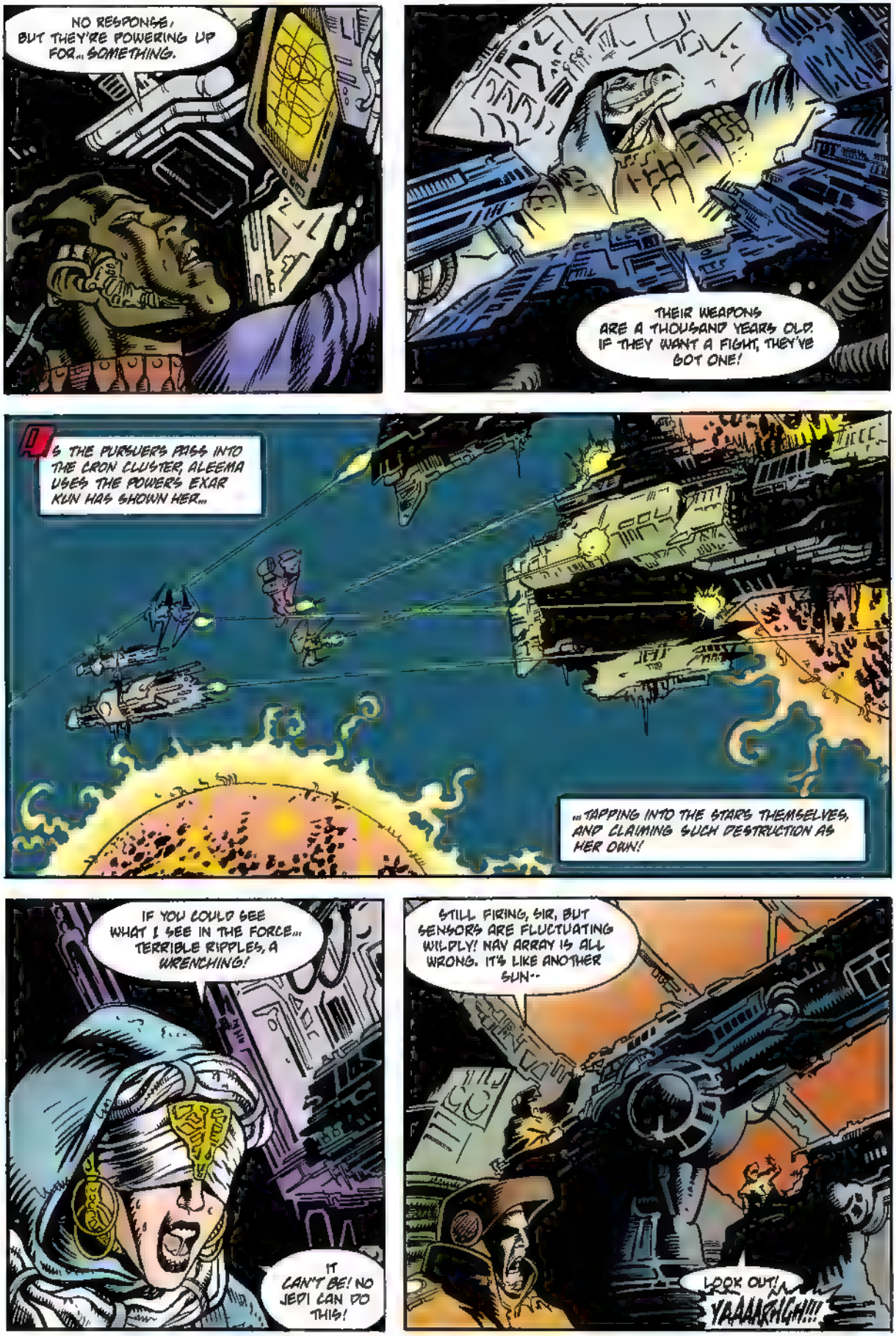

NAGA SADOW'S SHIP NAVIGATES THROUGH THE DENSE HEART OF THE CRON CLUSTER...
...HIDING...
...LYING IN WAIT...
ALEEMA KNOWS THE JEDI FORCES MUST FOLLOW
NAGA SADOW'S WEAPONRY IS SO POWERFUL... I CAN'T WAIT TO USE IT.
WHY DON'T THEY HURRY UP AND FIND US?

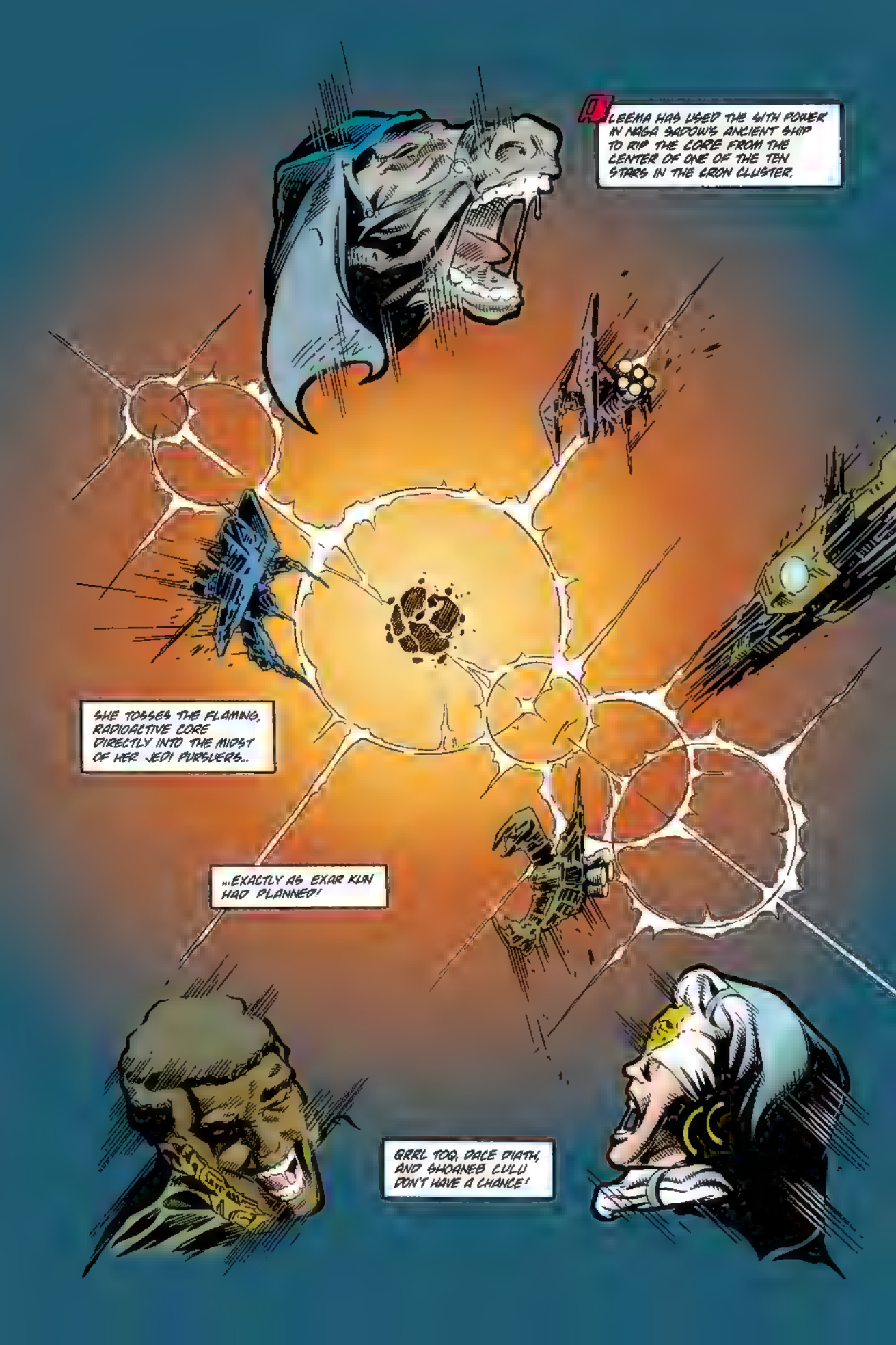
JEDI SHIPS APPROACHING, ALEEMA. THEIR WEAPONS ARE POWERING UP.
SHOULD I FIRE AT THEM?

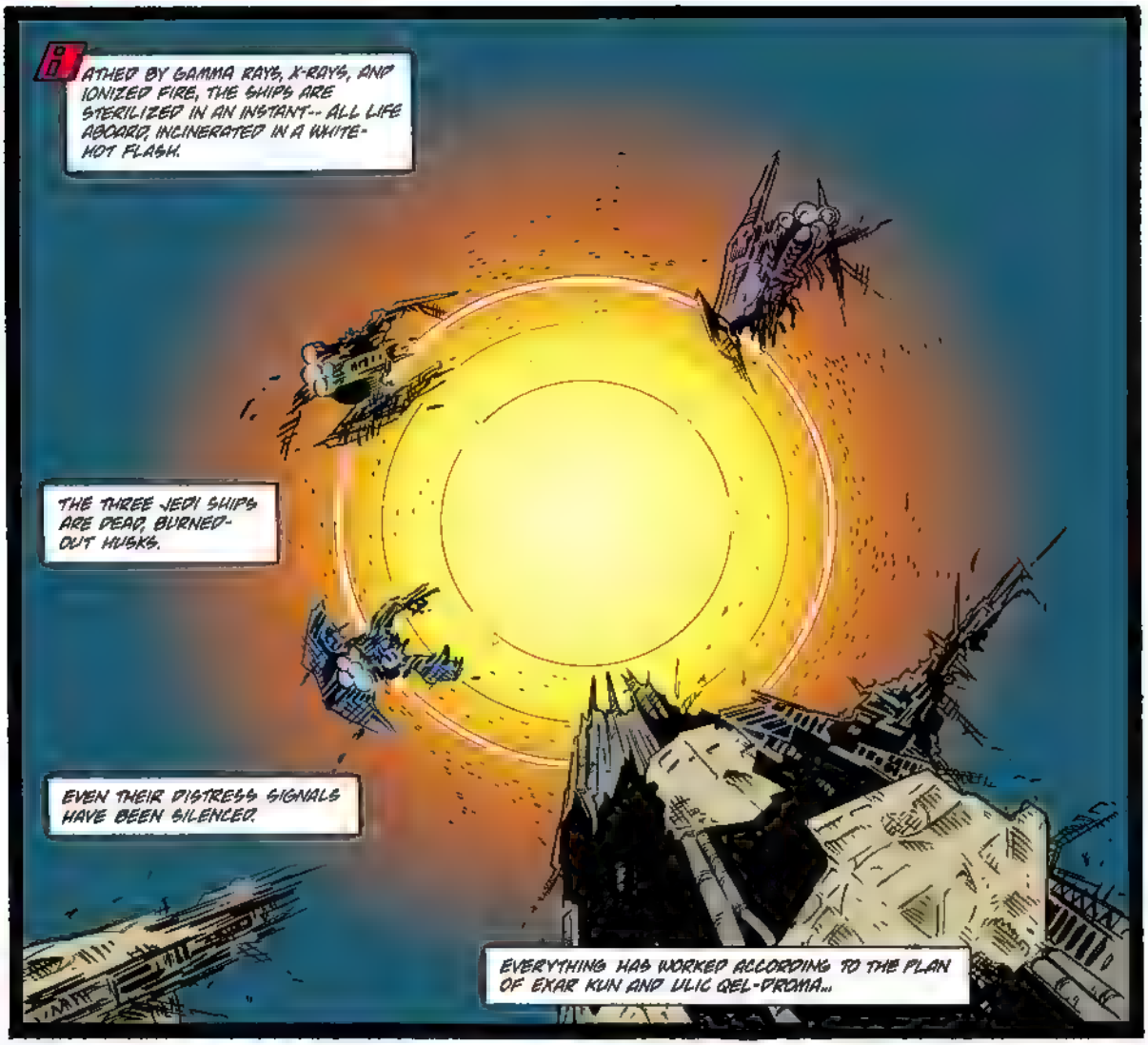
SITH SHIP! SURRENDER IF YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOOD FOR YOU!
WE'D BE HAPPY TO SPLATTER YOU INTO ONE OF THOSE SUNSPOTS!

NO, CRAPO--LEAVE THEM TO ME.

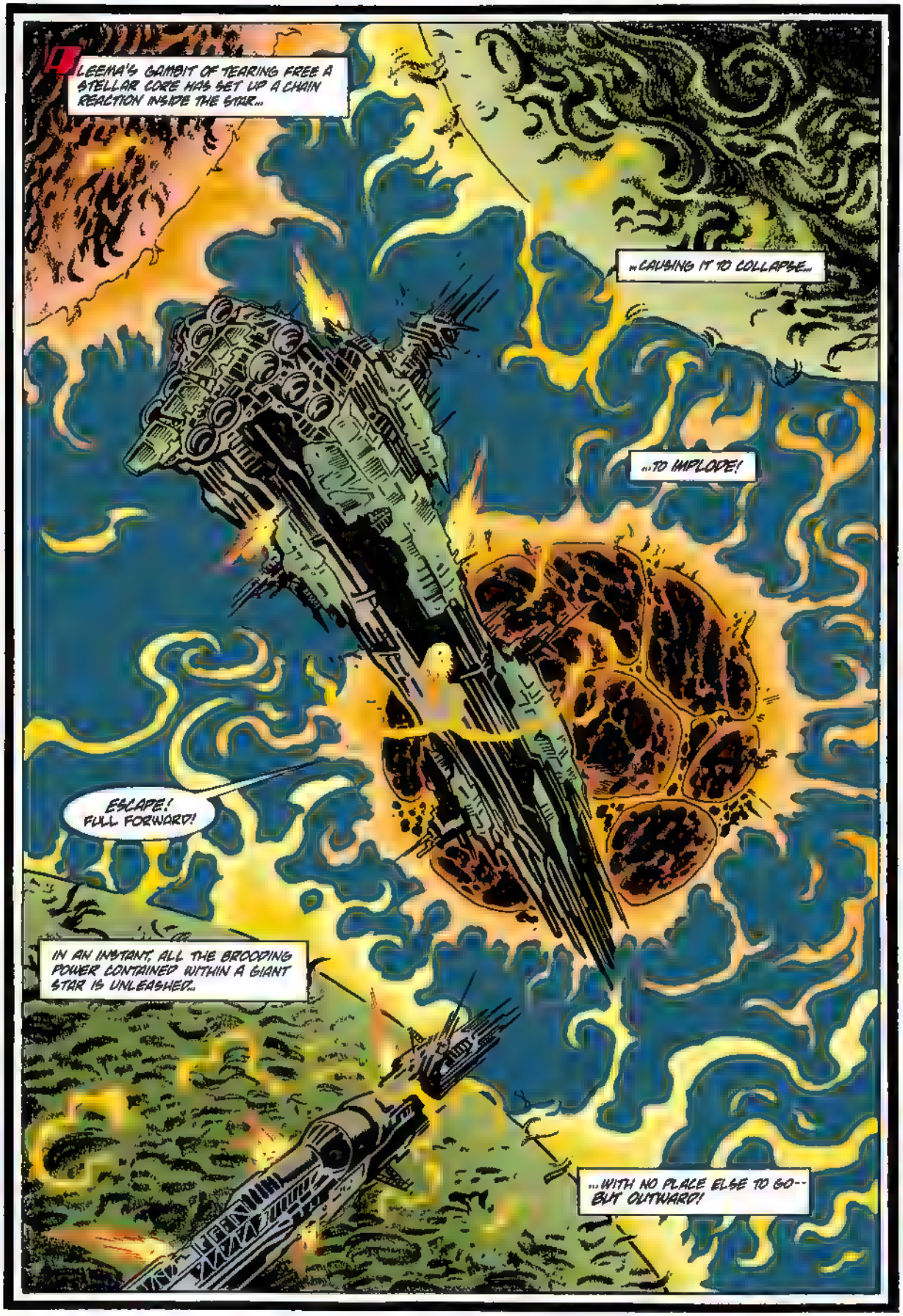

"I'VE GOT A SURPRISE FOR THEM."


NO RESPONSE, BUT THEY'RE POWERING UP FOR... SOMETHING.
THEIR WEAPONS ARE A THOUSAND YEARS OLD. IF THEY WANT A FIGHT, THEY'VE GOT ONE!
AS THE PURSUERS PASS INTO THE CRON CLUSTER, ALEEMA USES THE POWERS EXAR KUN HAS SHOWN HER...
...TAPPING INTO THE STARS THEMSELVES, AND CLAIMING SUCH DESTRUCTION AS HER OWN!
IF YOU COULD SEE WHAT I SEE IN THE FORCE... TERRIBLE RIPPLES, A WRENCHING!
IT CAN'T BE! NO JEDI CAN DO THIS!
STILL FIRING, SIR, BUT SENSORS ARE FLUCTUATING WILDLY! NAV ARRAY IS ALL WRONG. IT'S LIKE ANOTHER SUN--
LOOK OUT!
YAAAARGH!!!


A LEEMA HAS USED THE SITH POWER IN NAGA SADOW'S ANCIENT SHIP TO RIP THE CORE FROM THE CENTER OF ONE OF THE TEN STARS IN THE CRON CLUSTER.
SHE TOSSES THE FLAMING, RADIOACTIVE CORE DIRECTLY INTO THE MIDST OF HER JEDI PURSUERS...
...EXACTLY AS EXAR KUN HAD PLANNED!
GRRL TOO, DALE DIATH, AND SHOANEB CULU DON'T HAVE A CHANCE!


BATHED BY GAMMA RAYS, X-RAYS, AND IONIZED FIRE, THE SHIPS ARE STERILIZED IN AN INSTANT-- ALL LIFE ABOARD, INCINERATED IN A WHITE-HOT FLASH.
THE THREE JEDI SHIPS ARE DEAD, BURNED-OUT HUSKS.
EVEN THEIR DISTRESS SIGNALS HAVE BEEN SILENCED.
EVERYTHING HAS WORKED ACCORDING TO THE PLAN OF EXAR KUN AND ULIC QEL-DROMA...

...BUT THERE IS MORE TO THE PLAN.
THE WEAK JEDI FORCES ARE OBLITERATED!
EXAR KUN WILL BE PROUD OF US-- WAIT!
THE STAR! THAT ISN'T SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN.
BUT I'VE SHUT DOWN THE WEAPON'S POWER SOURCE!


LEEMA'S GAMBIT OF TEARING FREE A STELLAR CORE HAS SET UP A CHAIN REACTION INSIDE THE STAR...
...CAUSING IT TO COLLAPSE...
...TO IMPLODE!
ESCAPE! FULL FORWARD!
IN AN INSTANT, ALL THE BROODING POWER CONTAINED WITHIN A GIANT STAR IS UNLEASHED...
...WITH NO PLACE ELSE TO GO-- BUT OUTWARD!

SUPERNOVA!

IN HER LAST MOMENTS, ALEEMA SUDDENLY KNOWS THAT HER TREACHERY HAS BEEN EXPOSED!

ULIC!

CRADO, HOWEVER, DIES WITHOUT AN EXPLANATION.

EXAR KUN...

...WHY?

THE BLAST FRONT HITS OTHER TIGHTLY PACKED STARS IN THE CRON CLUSTER...

...CATAPULTING THEM OVER THE BRINK TO ANNIHILATION AS WELL.

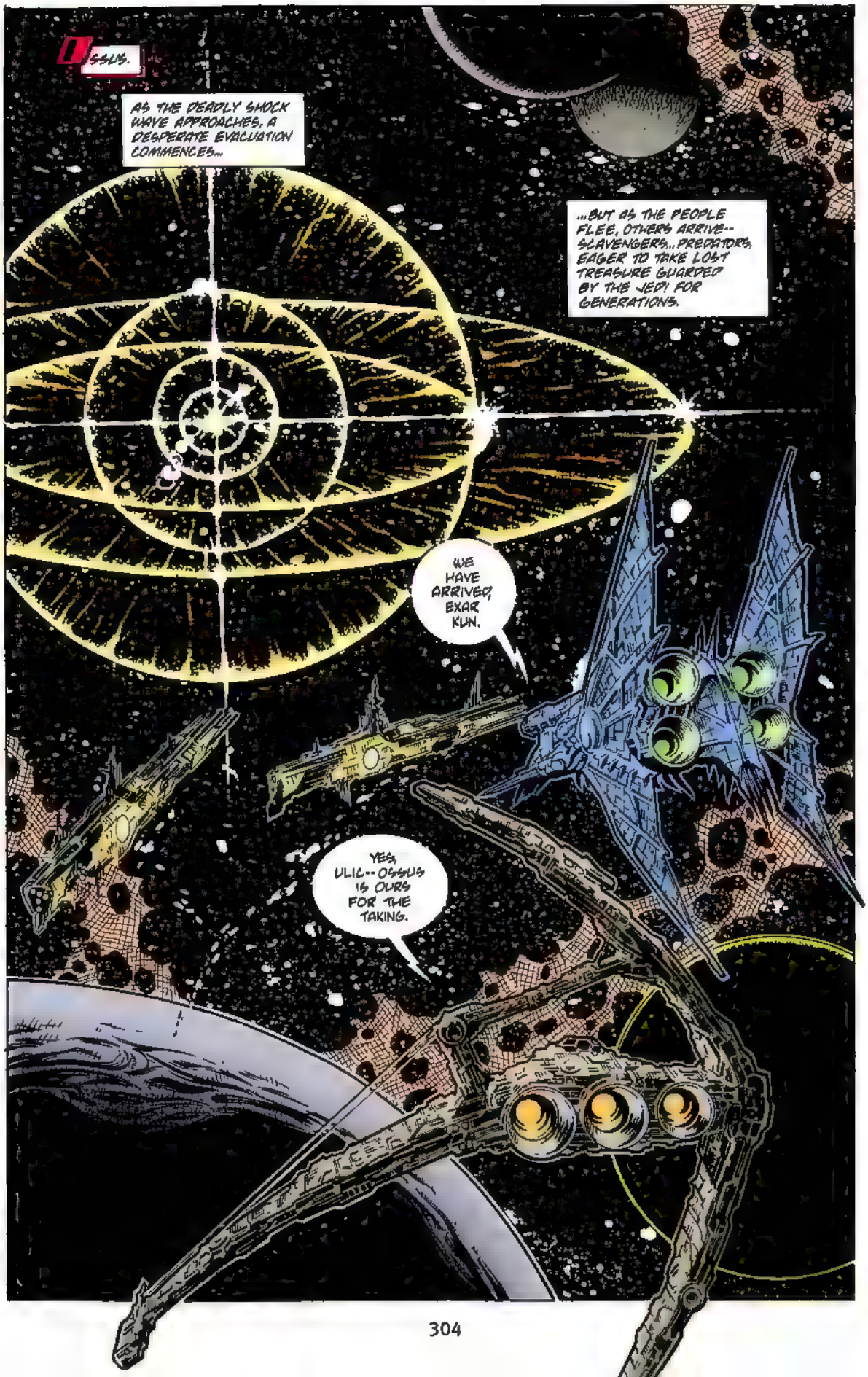
ALL TEN STARS FEED A SUDDEN INFERNO MORE DEVASTATING THAN ANYTHING THE GALAXY HAS EVER SEEN!

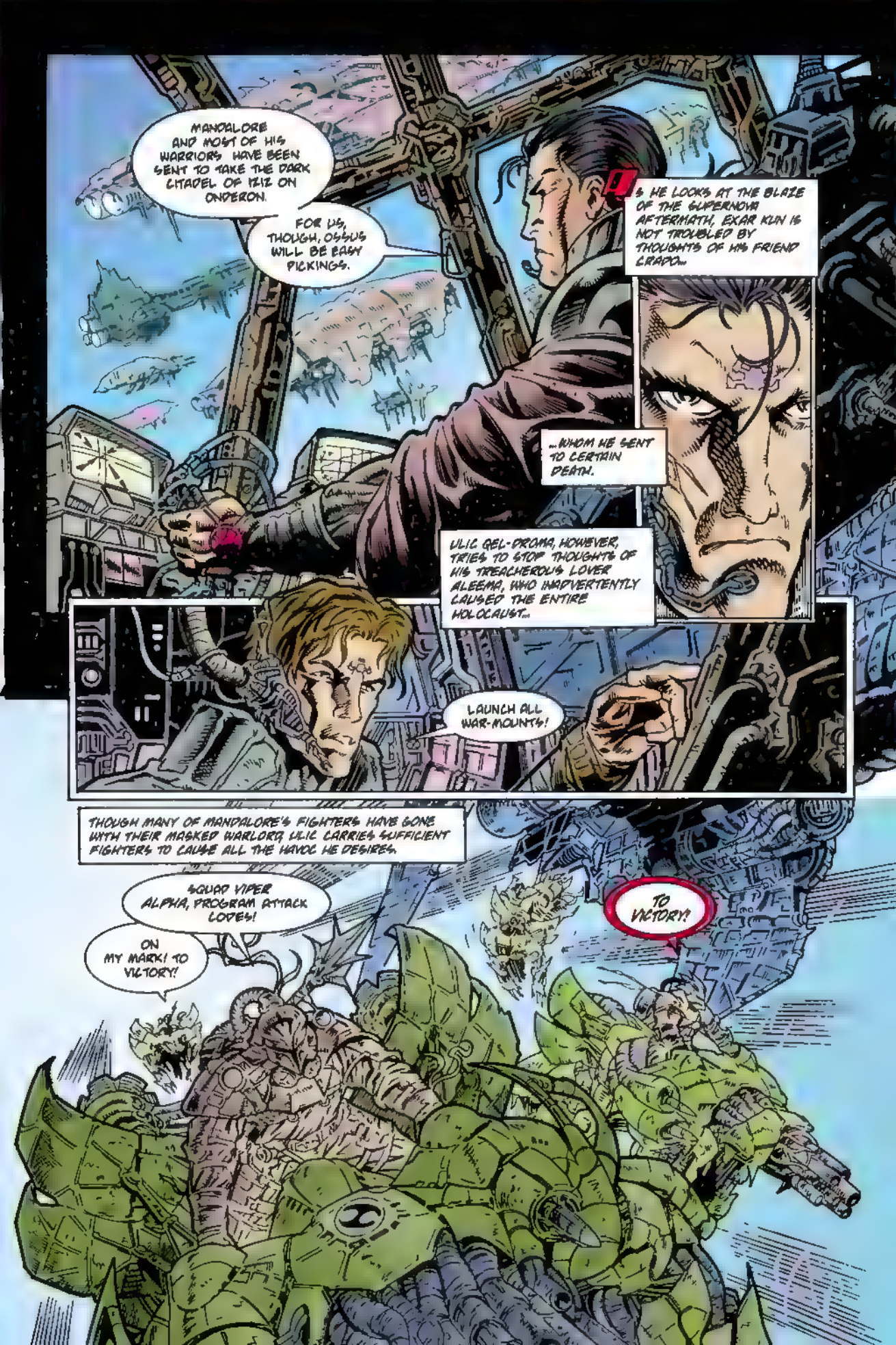
NEARBY OSSUS, THE RENOWNED STOREHOUSE OF JEDI KNOWLEDGE AND ARTIFACTS LIES DIRECTLY IN ITS PATH!

IT'S DONE, EXAR KUN. DID YOU FEEL THE DISTURBANCE IN THE FORCE?

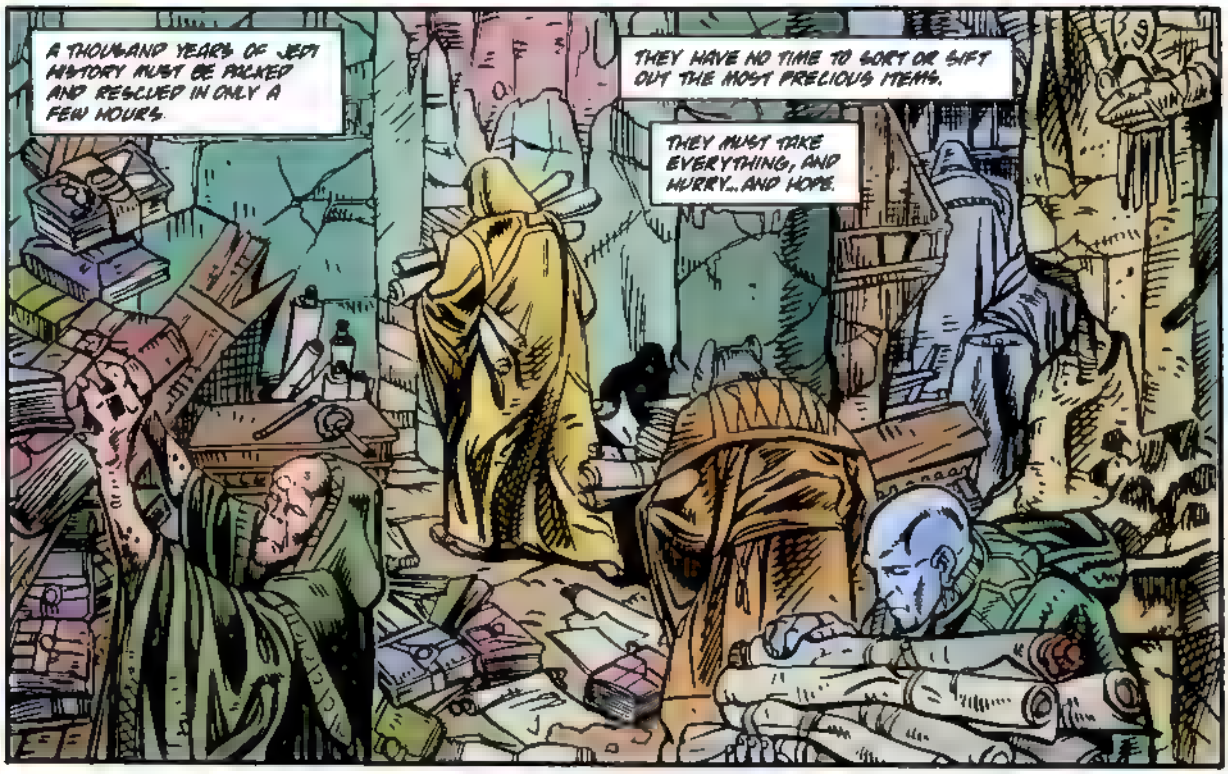
YES... THEY WILL HAVE NO CHOICE NOW BUT TO EVACUATE OSSUS.

WHEN THE GREAT LIBRARY IS UNDEFENDED, WE WILL STRIP IT CLEAN OF ALL THEIR PRECIOUS SECRETS!

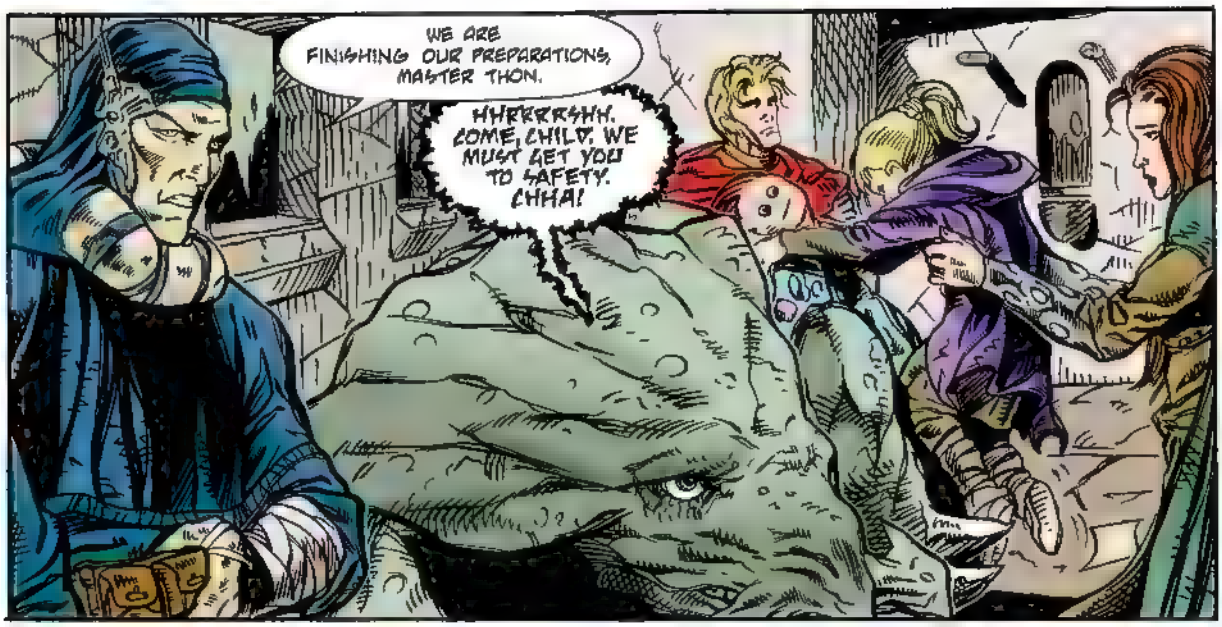

OSSUS
AS THE DEADLY SHOCK WAVE APPROACHES, A DESPERATE EVACUATION COMMENCES...
...BUT AS THE PEOPLE FLEE, OTHERS ARRIVE-- SCAVENGERS... PREDATORS, EAGER TO TAKE LOST TREASURE GUARDED BY THE JEDI FOR GENERATIONS.
WE HAVE ARRIVED, EXAR KUN.
YES, ULIC-- OSSUS IS OURS FOR THE TAKING.


MANDALORE AND MOST OF HIS WARRIORS HAVE BEEN SENT TO TAKE THE DARK CITADEL OF YLIZ ON ONDERON.
FOR US, THOUGH, OSSUS WILL BE EASY PICKINGS.
AS HE LOOKS AT THE BLAZE OF THE SUPERNOVA AFTERMATH, EXAR KUN IS NOT TROUBLED BY THOUGHTS OF HIS FRIEND CRADOS...
...WHOM HE SENT TO CERTAIN DEATH.
ULIC QEL-DROMA, HOWEVER, TRIES TO STOP THOUGHTS OF HIS TREACHEROUS LOVER ALEEMA, WHO INADVERTENTLY CAUSED THE ENTIRE HOLOCAUST...
LAUNCH ALL WAR-MOUNTS!
THOUGH MANY OF MANDALORE'S FIGHTERS HAVE GONE WITH THEIR MASKED WARLORD, ULIC CARRIES SUFFICIENT FIGHTERS TO CAUSE ALL THE HAVOC HE DESIRES.
SQUAD VIPER ALPHA, PROGRAM ATTACK CODES!
ON MY MARK! TO VICTORY!
TO VICTORY!

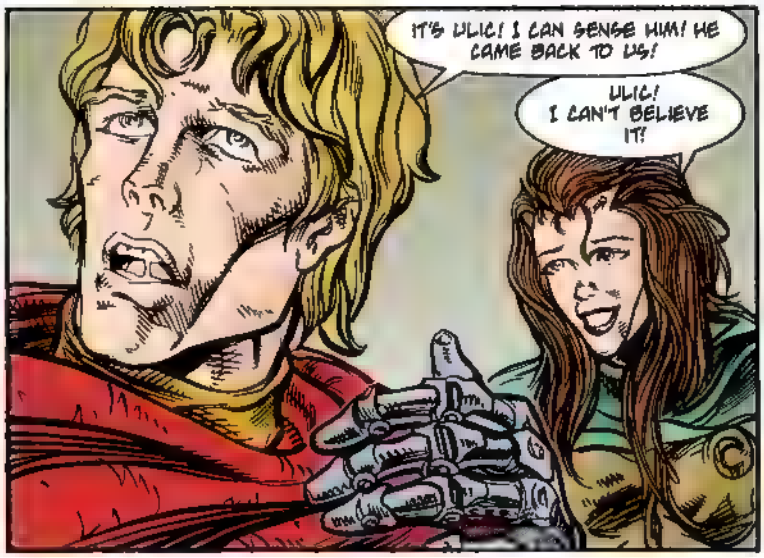
THE GREAT JEDI LIBRARY.
HUSTLE, EVERYONE! THAT FIRESTORM IS ON ITS WAY!

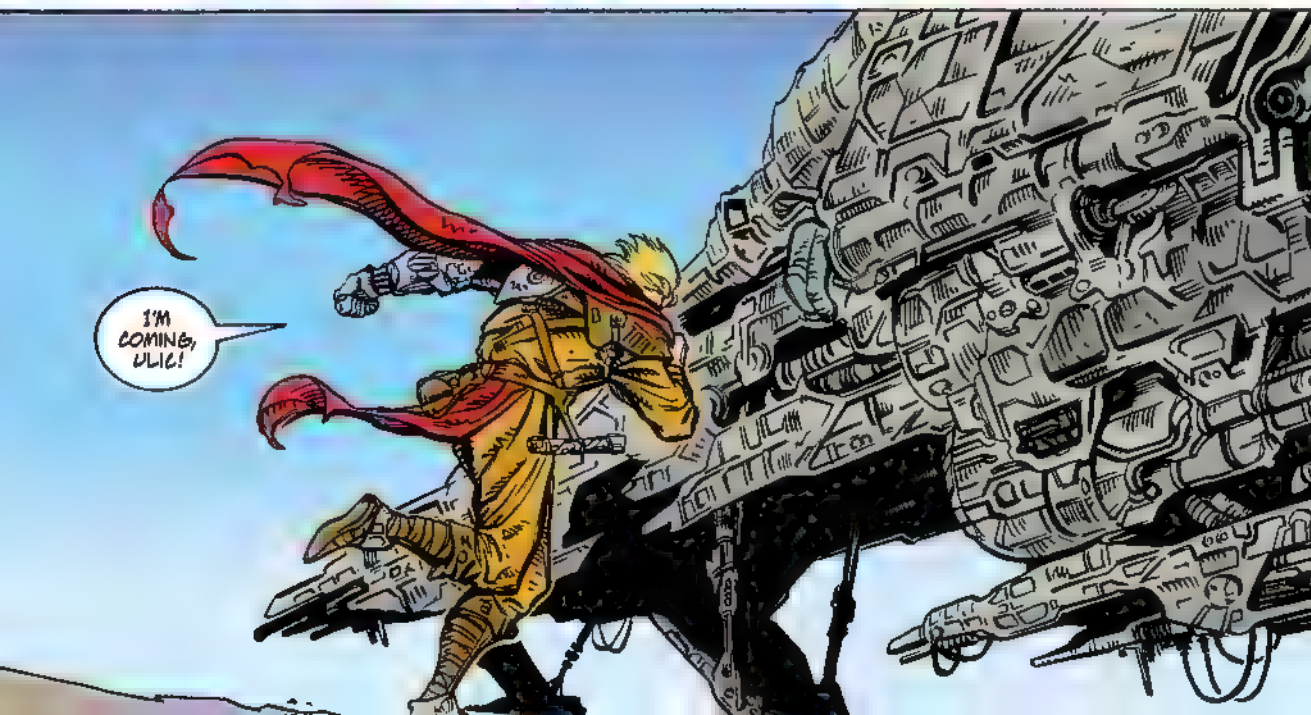

A THOUSAND YEARS OF JEDI HISTORY MUST BE PACKED AND RESCUED IN ONLY A FEW HOURS.
THEY HAVE NO TIME TO SORT OR SIFT OUT THE MOST PRECIOUS ITEMS.
THEY MUST TAKE EVERYTHING, AND HURRY...AND HOPE.

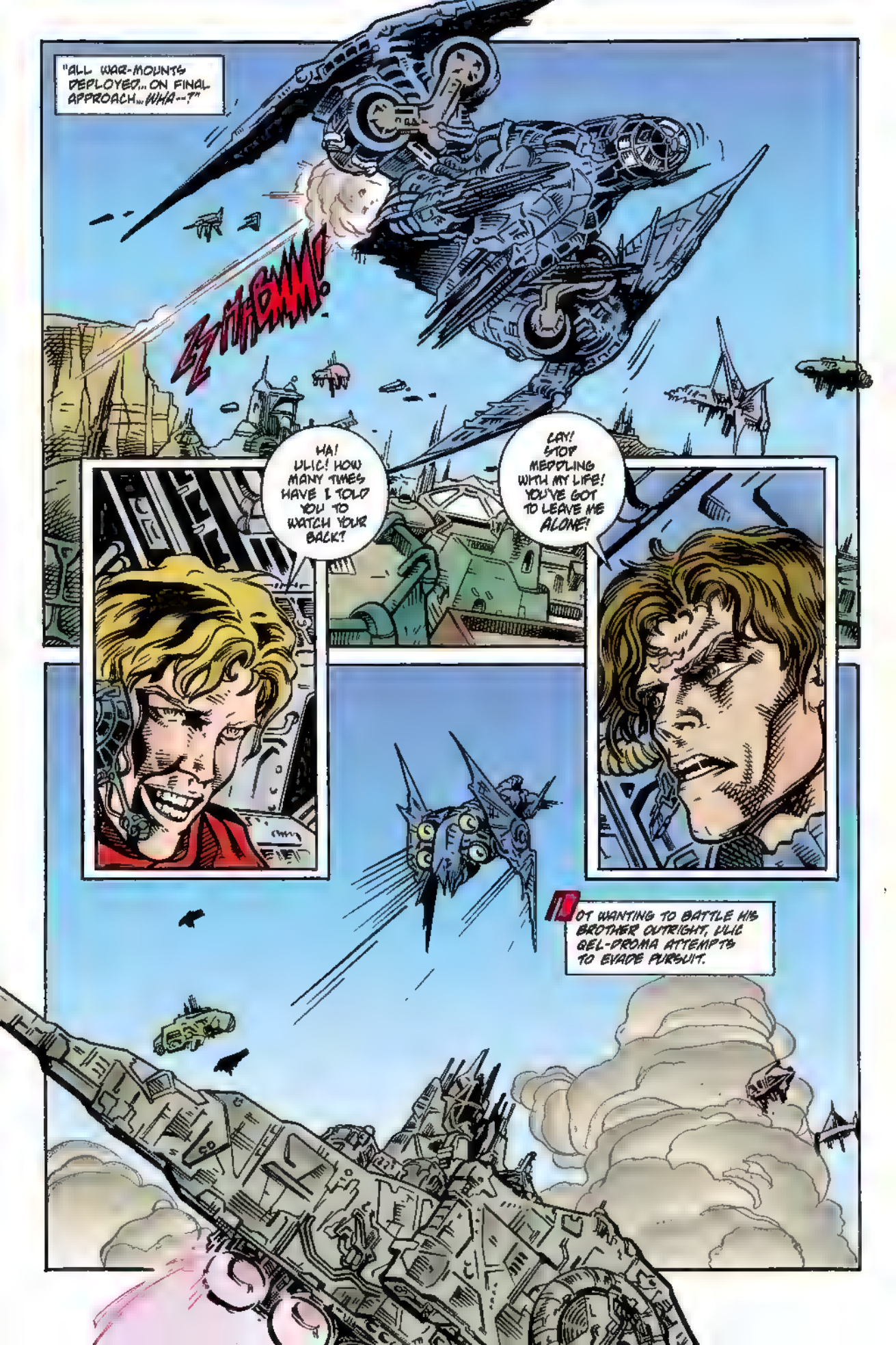
BEFORE LONG, THE CHAOS TAKES ITS TOLL ON THE PRECIOUS GARDENS, THE ARCHIVES...
...AND THE PALL OF THE TOMB BEGINS TO SETTLE OVER OSSUS.
THE HOPELESS PREPARATIONS HAVE A DEVASTATING EFFECT ON THOSE JEDI WHO MUST WITNESS THE EXCAVATION.
WE ARE DOING ALL WE CAN.
BUT WE'VE GOT TO DO MORE, SOMEHOW!
IT IS ALREADY LOST. NGRETH CHA! OSSUS... OSSUS...
MASTER THON, WE'VE GOT TO GET TO ONE OF THE TRANSPORT SHIPS.


WE ARE FINISHING OUR PREPARATIONS, MASTER THON.
HYRRRRSHH. COME, CHILD. WE MUST GET YOU TO SAFETY. CHHA!

LOOK-- THAT SHIP! CAN YOU FEEL IT?

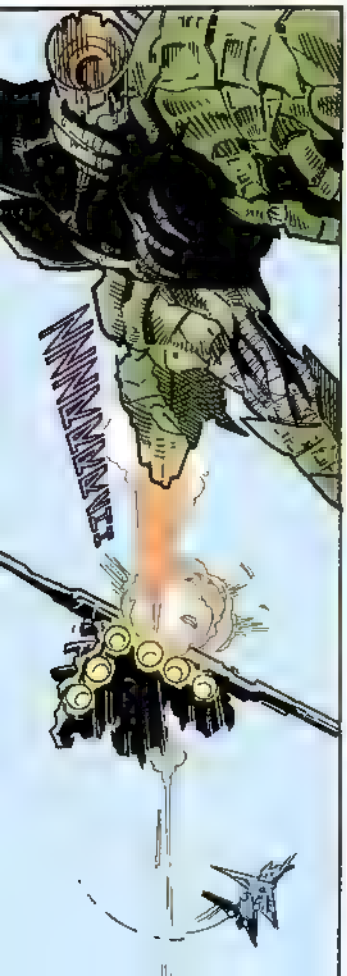

IT'S ULIC! I CAN SENSE HIM! HE CAME BACK TO US!
ULIC! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

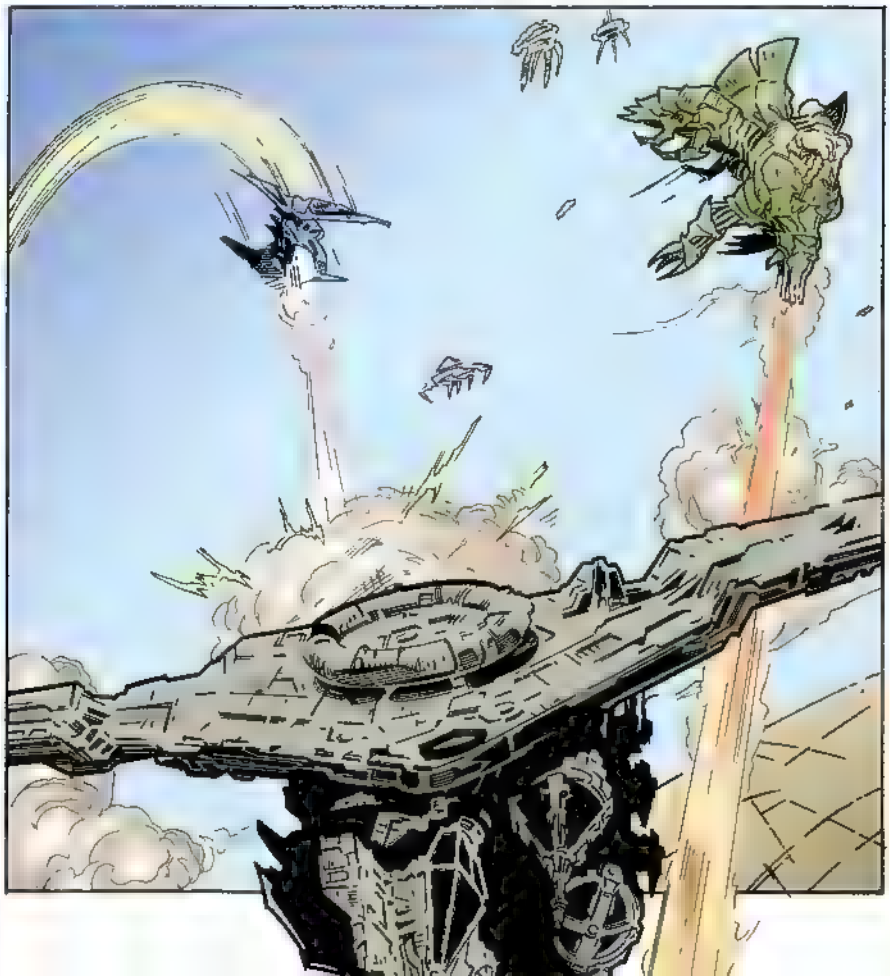

I'M COMING, ULIC!


"ALL WAR-MOUNTS DEPLOYED... ON FINAL APPROACH... WHA--?"
ZZHHBUM!
HA! ULIC! HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU TO WATCH YOUR BACK?
CAY! STOP MEDDLING WITH MY LIFE! YOU'VE GOT TO LEAVE ME ALONE!
NOT WANTING TO BATTLE HIS BROTHER OUTRIGHT, ULIC QEL-DROMA ATTEMPTS TO EVADE PURSUIT.

BUT THE NEBULON RANGER HAS OTHER IDEAS, TARGETING SURGICAL STRIKES ON ULIC'S ENGINES.

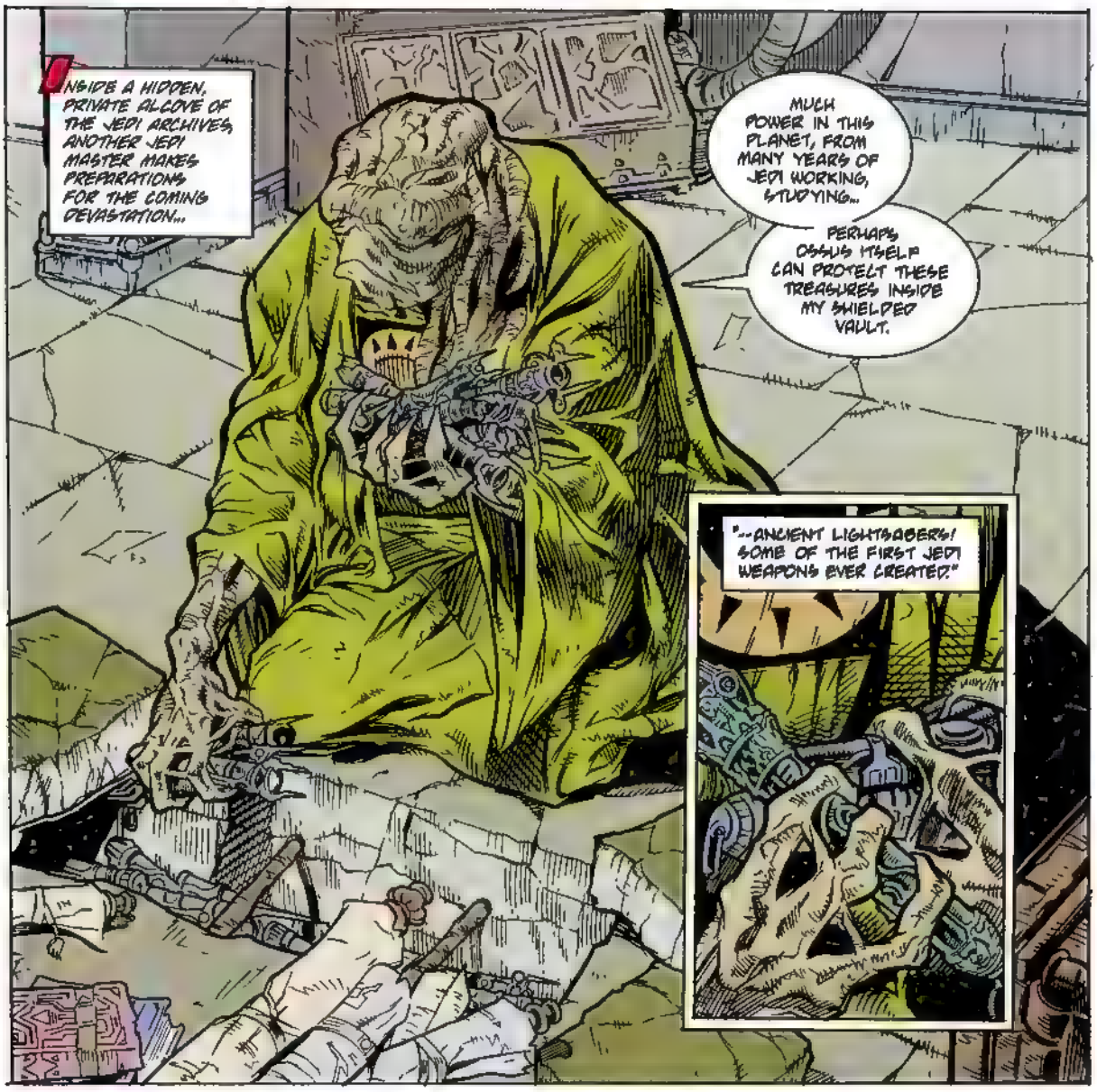
COME ON, ULIC! WE NEED TO TALK!





UL-IC! STOP! I'M GOING DOWN!

HEEDLESS OF THE BATTLE IN THE SKIES ABOVE, OR OF THE EXCAVATION EFFORTS ON THE SURFACE, EXAR KUN'S STARSTORM ONE LANDS ON OSSUS.
LIKE AN EMPEROR CLAIMING A CONQUERED LAND, KUN EMERGES SEARCHING FOR TREASURED ARTIFACTS.
CAN YOU SMELL THE HISTORY, THE POWER HERE?
WE HAVE LITTLE TIME TO TAKE IT ALL FOR OURSELVES!


INSIDE A HIDDEN, PRIVATE ALCOVE OF THE JEDI ARCHIVES, ANOTHER JEDI MASTER MAKES PREPARATIONS FOR THE COMING DEVASTATION...
MUCH POWER IN THIS PLANET, FROM MANY YEARS OF JEDI WORKING, STUDYING...
PERHAPS OSSUS ITSELF CAN PROTECT THESE TREASURES INSIDE MY SHIELDED VAULT.
"--ANCIENT LIGHTSABERS! SOME OF THE FIRST JEDI WEAPONS EVER CREATED."

EXAR KUN!
AH, MASTER OOD! THANK YOU FOR SAVING THOSE ARTIFACTS FOR US.
I WILL MAKE GOOD USE OF THEM IN THE NEW SITH GOLDEN AGE!

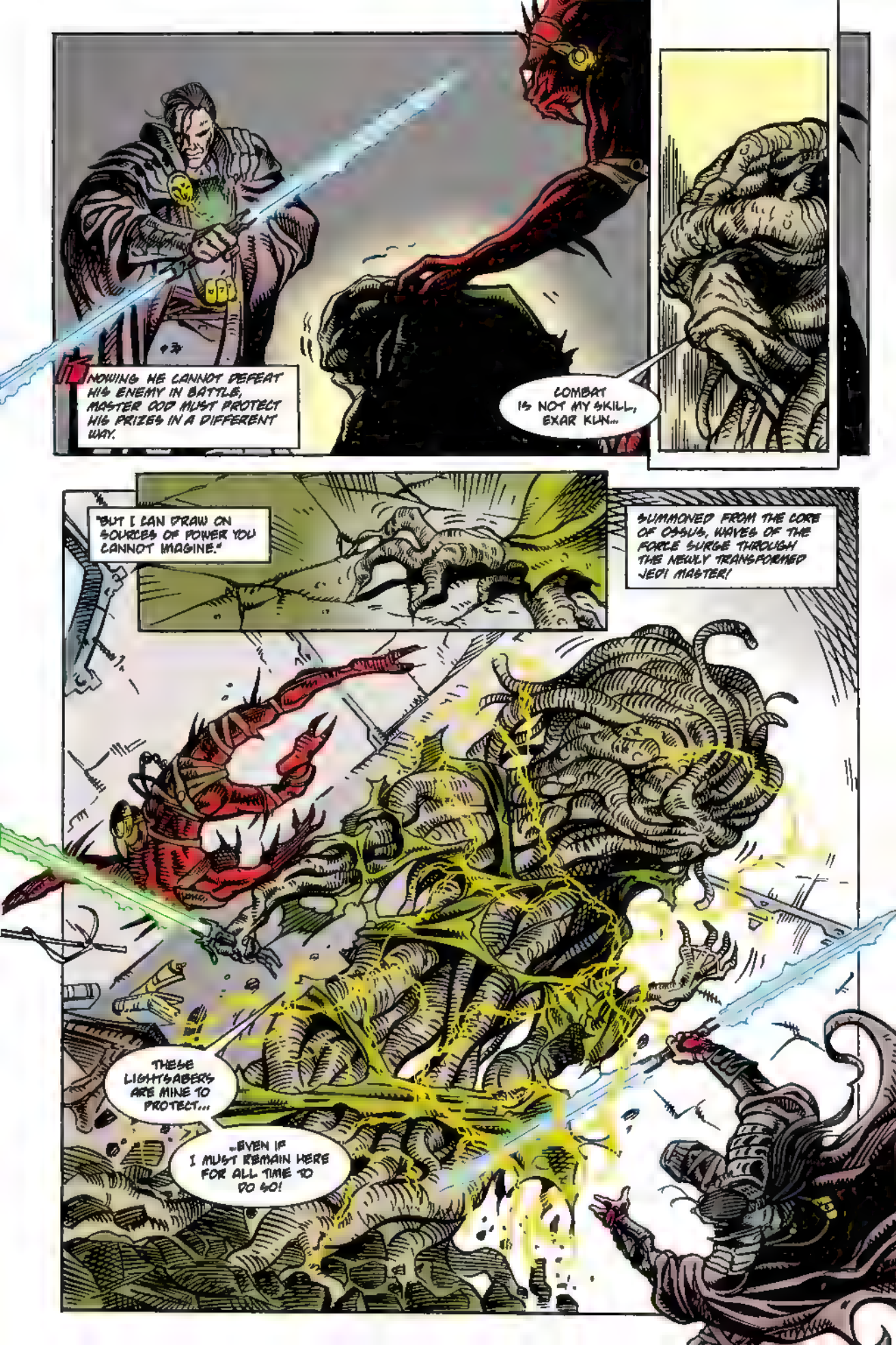
THESE LIGHTSABERS BELONG TO THE JEDI...

...I WILL PROTECT THEM WITH MY LIFE, IF I MUST!

A PITY... LOOKS LIKE I'LL BE CHOPPING WOOD TODAY!

ZZZSSSHHHZZZ

GRRTHHN HHKKEK!


KNOWING HE CANNOT DEFEAT HIS ENEMY IN BATTLE, MASTER ODD MUST PROTECT HIS PRIZES IN A DIFFERENT WAY.
COMBAT IS NOT MY SKILL, EXAR KUN...
"BUT I CAN DRAW ON SOURCES OF POWER YOU CANNOT IMAGINE."
SUMMONED FROM THE CORE OF OSSUS, WAVES OF THE FORCE SURGE THROUGH THE NEWLY TRANSFORMED JEDI MASTER!
THESE LIGHTSABERS ARE MINE TO PROTECT...
...EVEN IF I MUST REMAIN HERE FOR ALL TIME TO DO SO!

FOOLISH OLD JEDI MASTER!
HE'LL BE TRAPPED HERE WHEN THE CONFLAGRATION HITS.
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER FOR OOD IF HE'D JUST SURRENDERED THOSE LIGHTSABERS.
EVEN WITHOUT THEM, OUR SITH VICTORY IS ASSURED.
COME, THE OTHER MASSASSI HAVE LOADED STARSTORM ONE WITH ALL THEY COULD FIND.

LOOKING AT ALL THE PRECIOUS JEDI ARTIFACTS HIS MASSASSI SERVANTS HAVE STOLEN, EXAR KUN KNOWS HE HAS MORE WEALTH AND KNOWLEDGE THAN HE CAN EVER USE.
EXAR KUN!
NOW WHAT?
YOU HAVE CORRUPTED MY MATE CRADO! YOU HAVE SLAIN MASTER YODO! YOU HAVE SHATTERED THE PEACE OF OUR GALAXY!
NOW YOU WILL DIE BY MY LIGHTSABER!

ARE YOU AFRAID, EXAR KUN?

THESE WEAKLINGS WON'T STOP ME!

GO TO HER-- FINISH THIS. WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO WASTE.

EXAR KUN--YOU ARE MY TARGET! ARE YOU AFAID TO FIGHT ME?

I HAVE BETTER THINGS TO DO WITH MY TIME.

COME, BACK TO OUR BASE ON YAVIN FOUR TO STUDY OUR SPOILS OF WAR!

ULIC QEL-DROMA CAN TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF!

THE EMERGENCY EFFORTS OF ALL THE JEDI CAN BARELY SCRATCH THE SURFACE OF THE KNOWLEDGE ENTOMBED ON OSSUS.
NOT ENOUGH. GIVEN AN ENTIRE YEAR WE COULD NOT HAVE SALVAGED ENOUGH.
THE REST WILL BE LOST FOREVER.
ANYONE HERE? LAST CALL FOR EVACUATION!
THIS ONE'S CLEAR.
"ALL TROOPS HEAD BACK TO PICKUP STATIONS. HUSTLE! THAT SHOCK WAVE WILL BE HERE IN LESS THAN TWO HOURS."
WHAT?! HOW CAN WE BE UNDER ATTACK NOW?!
NGRR HHFFF. SO THE SCAVENGERS HAVE COME AT LAST.
THEY ARE NOT CONTENT TO WAIT FOR THE DEVASTATION TO TAKE ITS OWN TOLL.
LOOK, MAMA, LOOK! SHIPS!

THIS IS EVACUATION SHIP KEDRISS ONE! WE ARE UNDER ATTACK!
ENGINES DAMAGED. OVERLOAD IMMINENT. AAAAUGH!
THAT'S LAY! HE'S IN TROUBLE!
AND ULIC!

EVEN LAY GEL-DROMA'S CRACK PILOTING SKILLS ARE BARELY SUFFICIENT TO AVERT TOTAL DISASTER.
GOT TO GET OUT... NO TELLING IF THIS SHIP IS GOING TO BLOW!
JUST HOLD YOURSELF TOGETHER A FEW MORE MINUTES FOR ME, RANGER!
ULIC! ARE YOU HURT?
SO, BROTHER, YOU LANDED SAFELY. DON'T FORCE ME TO HURT YOU FURTHER.

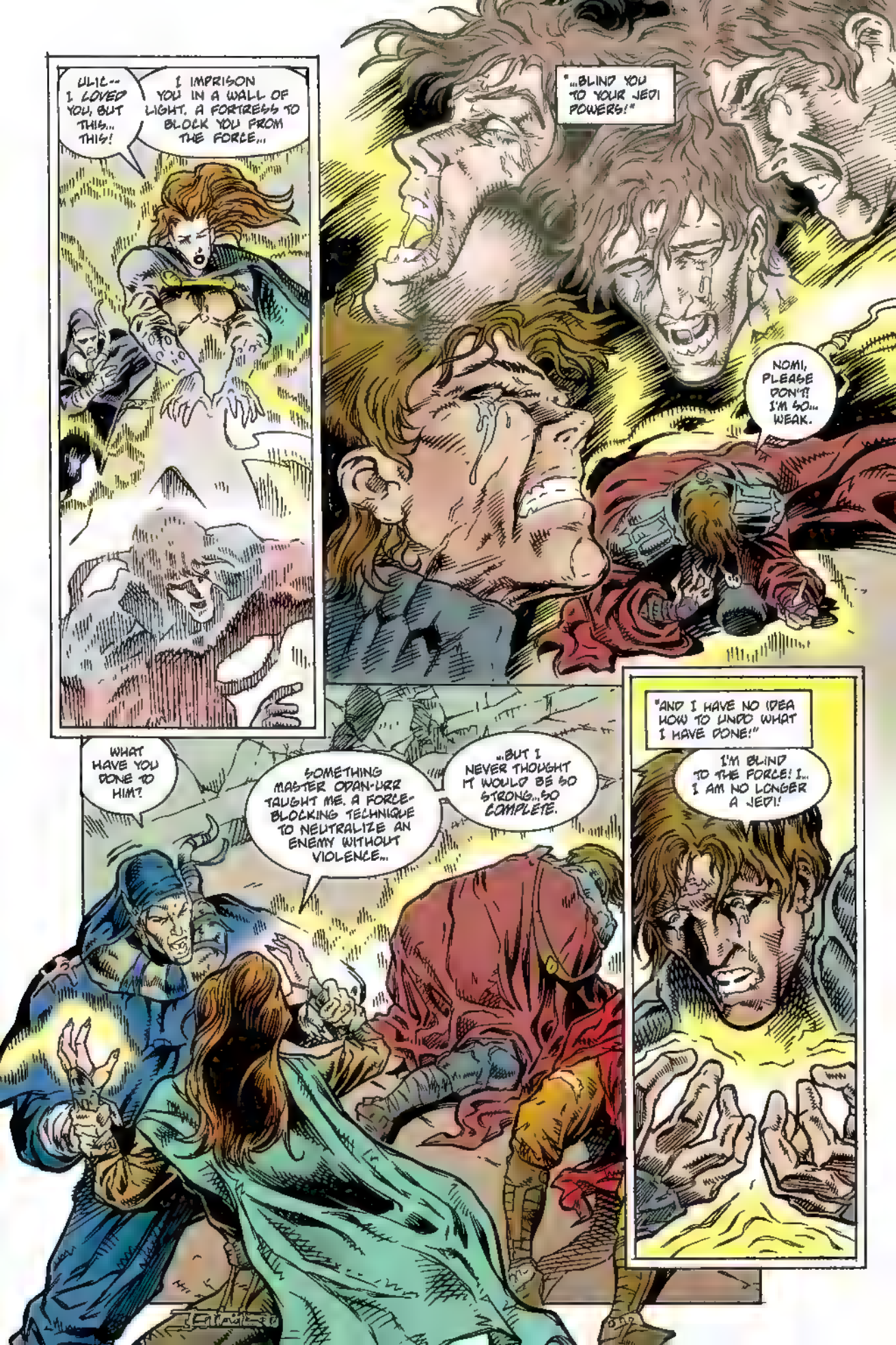
ULIC, YOU'VE BEEN INJURED! YOU'RE BLEEDING!
IT IS AN OLD WOUND, A SITH WOUND.
THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT.
ULIC, I DON'T WANT TO DO THIS--
--BUT I HAVE TO SAVE YOU FROM YOURSELF, FROM THE DARK SIDE.

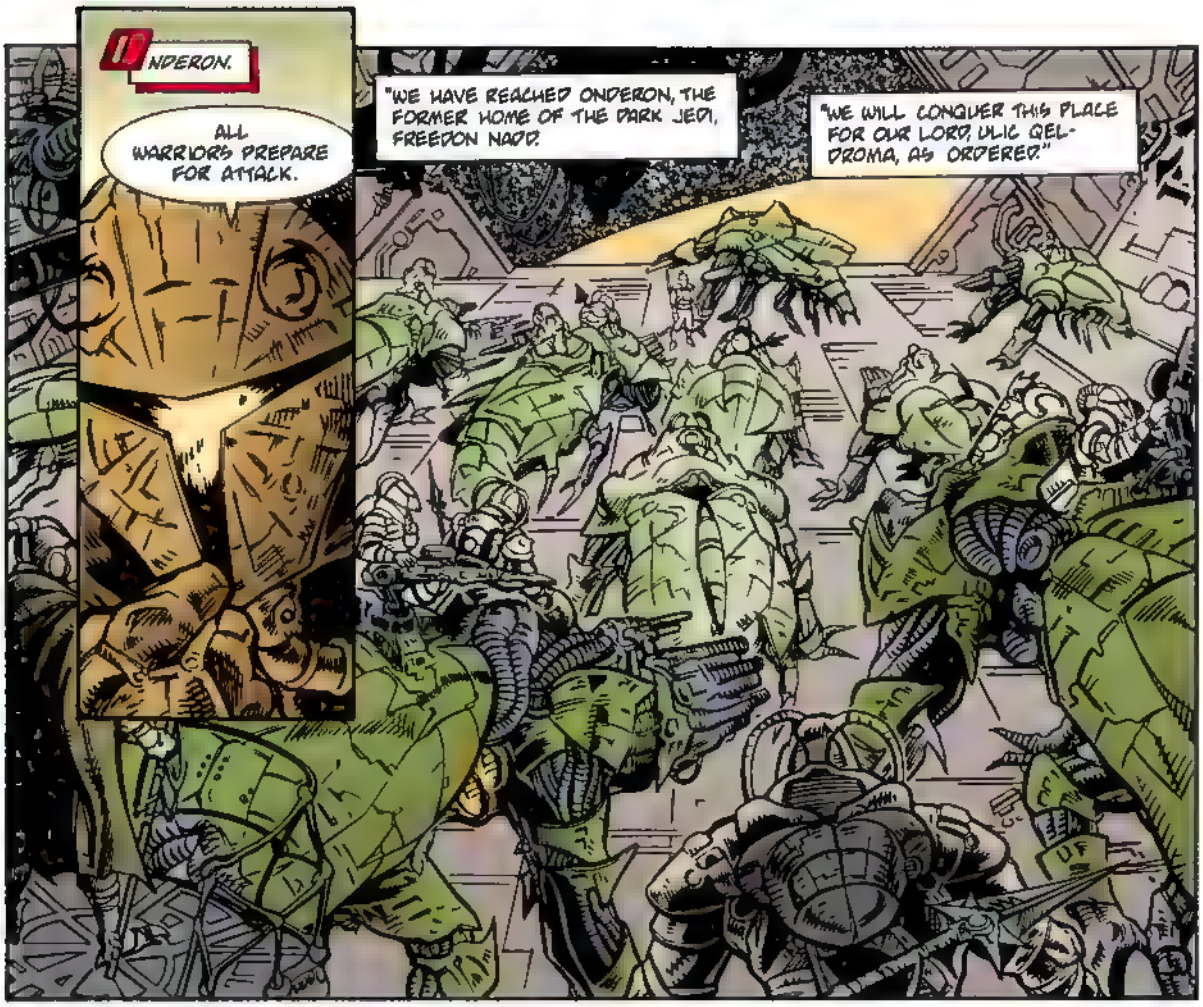
THE SITH POISON, ULIC! YOU'RE NOT THINKING CLEARLY!
DRIVE BACK THE DARK SIDE!
CONTROL YOUR ANGER OVER MASTER ARCA'S DEATH, ULIC! THAT'S WHAT DROVE YOU TO SEEK REVENGE!
THAT'S WHAT OPENED THE DOORWAY TO THIS EVIL IN YOUR MIND! YOU COULD HAVE DONE NOTHING TO HELP HIM!
HE DIED TO PROTECT YOU! DON'T DESTROY HIS SACRIFICE!
NOOOO! I WILL MAKE YOU...
...BE...
...SILENT!
MY ARM!

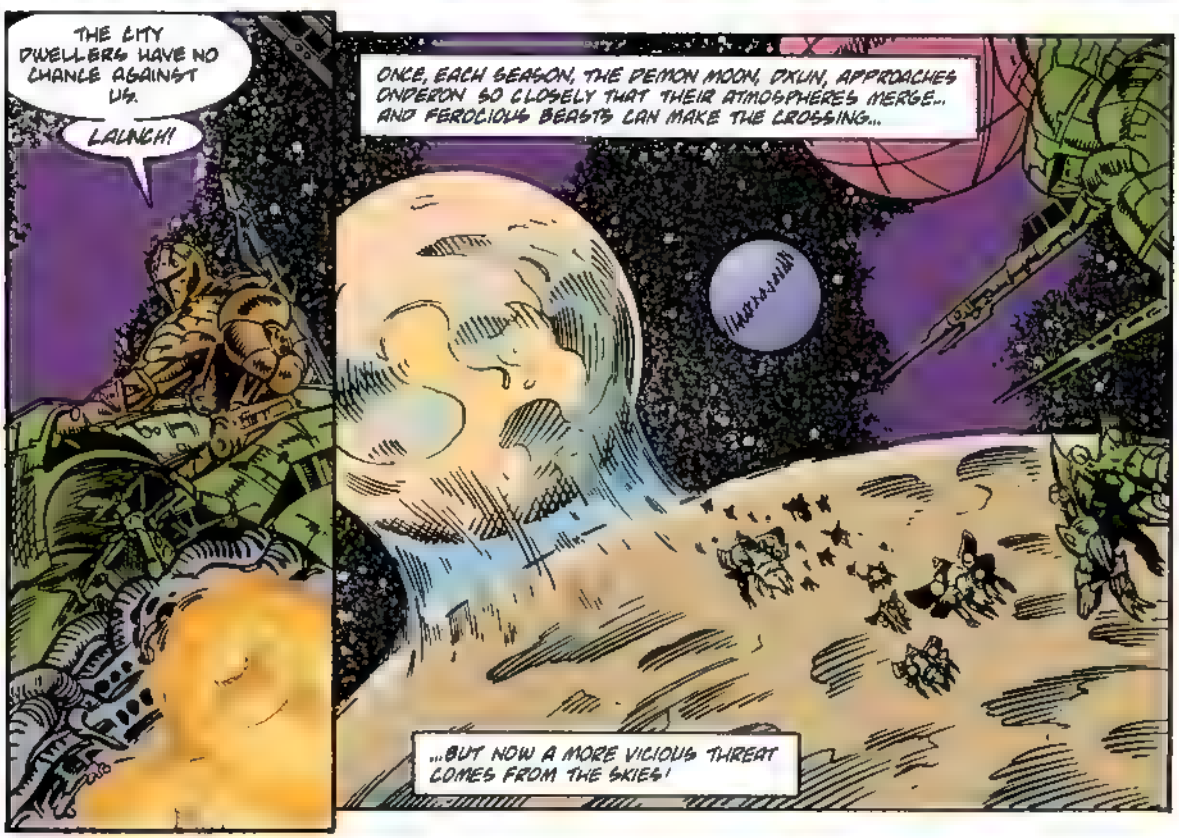
ULIC, I LOVE YOU! THAT'S WHY I'M DOING THIS!
THEN YOU SHOULD HAVE JUST...
...LEFT ME...
...ALONE!

LAY, MY BROTHER! WHAT HAVE I DONE?
AAAAAYYYYY!

10
OMI SUNRIDER, SEEING HER FRIEND KILLED BY THE MAN SHE ONCE LOVED, IS DEVASTATED BY THE TWISTED WORKINGS OF THE DARK SIDE
ULIC, YOU ARE FOREVER CURSED FOR WHAT YOU HAVE DONE.
SEE WHAT HAS COME FROM YOUR OWN PRIDE AND YOUR APPETITE FOR REVENGE.
CAY... CAY, FORGIVE ME!
YOU BROUGHT THIS UPON YOURSELF. THE JEDI MASTERS WERE RIGHT, ULIC...
...YOU MUST FACE THE CONSEQUENCES OF WHAT YOU HAVE BEGUN.
NOMI, WHAT ARE YOU DOING? HASN'T THERE BEEN ENOUGH--


ULIC-- I LOVED YOU, BUT THIS... THIS!
I IMPRISON YOU IN A WALL OF LIGHT. A FORTRESS TO BLOCK YOU FROM THE FORCE...
"...BLIND YOU TO YOUR JEDI POWERS!"
NOMI, PLEASE DON'T! I'M SO... WEAK.
"AND I HAVE NO IDEA HOW TO UNDO WHAT I HAVE DONE!"
I'M BLIND TO THE FORCE! I... I AM NO LONGER A JEDI!
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO HIM?
SOMETHING MASTER ODAN-URR TAUGHT ME. A FORCE-BLOCKING TECHNIQUE TO NEUTRALIZE AN ENEMY WITHOUT VIOLENCE..
...BUT I NEVER THOUGHT IT WOULD BE SO STRONG...SO COMPLETE.


ONDERON.
ALL WARRIORS PREPARE FOR ATTACK.
"WE HAVE REACHED ONDERON, THE FORMER HOME OF THE DARK JEDI, FREEDON NADD.
"WE WILL CONQUER THIS PLACE FOR OUR LORD, ULIC QEL-DROMA, AS ORDERED."


THE CITY DWELLERS HAVE NO CHANCE AGAINST US.
LAUNCH!
ONCE, EACH SEASON, THE DEMON MOON, DXUN, APPROACHES ONDERON SO CLOSELY THAT THEIR ATMOSPHERES MERGE... AND FEROCIOUS BEASTS CAN MAKE THE CROSSING...
...BUT NOW A MORE VICIOUS THREAT COMES FROM THE SKIES!

AT THE ROYAL PALACE OF IZIZ, ORON KIRA AND QUEEN GALIA LOOK OUT OVER THE CITY THEY HAVE RECLAIMED FROM THE DARK SIDE
ORON, WHAT ARE THOSE OBJECTS IN THE SKY? THEY AREN'T OUR FLYING WARBEASTS.
IT'S SOMETHING MUCH WORSE, I FEAR.
BECAUSE OF THE DIRE THREAT POSED BY THE CLOSE PASSAGE OF THE DXUN MOON, ORON KIRA'S FLYING WARRIORS STAND READY AT ALL TIMES.
SOUND THE ALARM! SUMMON THE FLYING WAR-BEASTS!
BEAST-RIDERS, HO! WE MUST DEFEND OUR CITY AGAINST THE INVADERS!

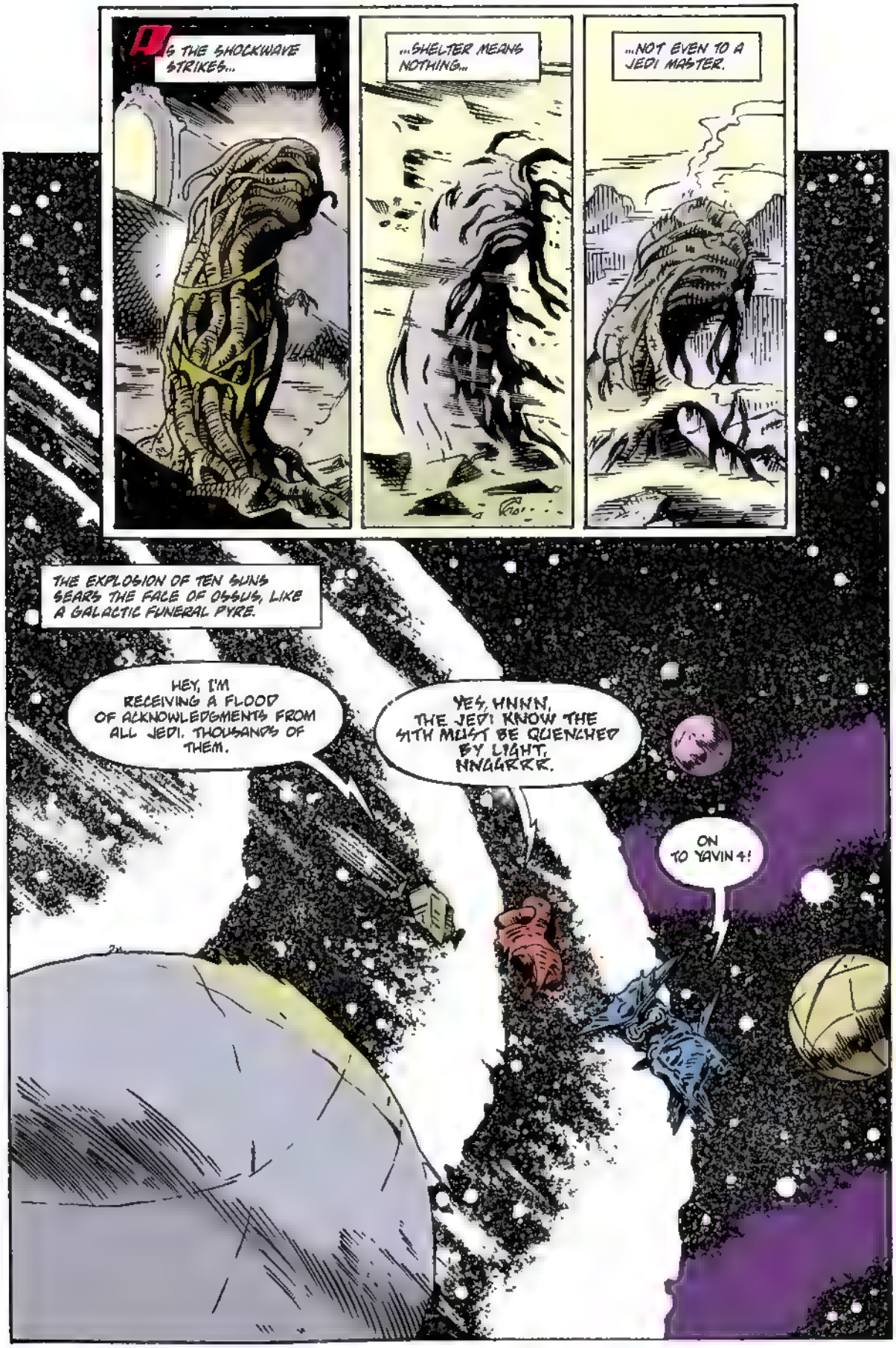
WE CAN CONQUER THIS CITY BEFORE ULIC AND OUR FELLOW WARRIORS FINISH ON OSSUS.
ATTACK! NO MERCY!
CITY OF IZIZ--WE DEMAND YOUR IMMEDIATE SURRENDER!
YOU MAY NOT FIND US SUCH EASY TARGETS, INVADER!
REINFORCEMENTS HAVE BEEN SUMMONED FROM THE REPUBLIC, LORD KIRA!
THEN WE'VE GOT TO HOLD ON UNTIL THEY GET HERE.

THE PRIMITIVE TECHNOLOGY OF THE BEAST-RIDERS OF ONDERON PROVES EQUAL TO THE MECHANICAL MIGHT OF THE MANDALORIAN WAR-MOUNTS.
WE HAVE DEALT BEFORE WITH VERMIN FROM THE SKIES...
...YOU'RE NO DIFFERENT FROM THE MONSTERS FROM THE DXUN MOON!
WE ARE DIFFERENT, VERY DIFFERENT-- FOR WE SHALL CONQUER.

SSUS.
GGNNNR. I HAD THOUGHT THIS DAY'S TRAGEDY WAS ALREADY TOO GREAT.
NOW, WE MUST ENDURE MORE
MASTER THON! I WAS SO ENRAGED, SO HORR.F.E.D... I LOST CONTROL.
I UNLEASHED MY ABILITY TO BLOCK JEDI POWERS, THE DEFENSE THAT MASTER ODAN-URR TAUGHT ME.
I COULDN'T STOP MYSELF!
"POOR ULIC...LOOK AT HIM!"
ULIC QEL-DROMA, THOUGH, IS NOT THE ONLY VICTIM OF THE SITH SCOURGE.
I UNDERSTAND THE DEVASTATION, THE GUILT, ULIC -- BUT WE MUST STOP EXAR KUN.
THAT IS OUR DUTY AS JEDI
FIRST MY MASTER THON, THEN MY BROTHER LAY, NOW MY OWN POWERS...
NOTHING IS LEFT!

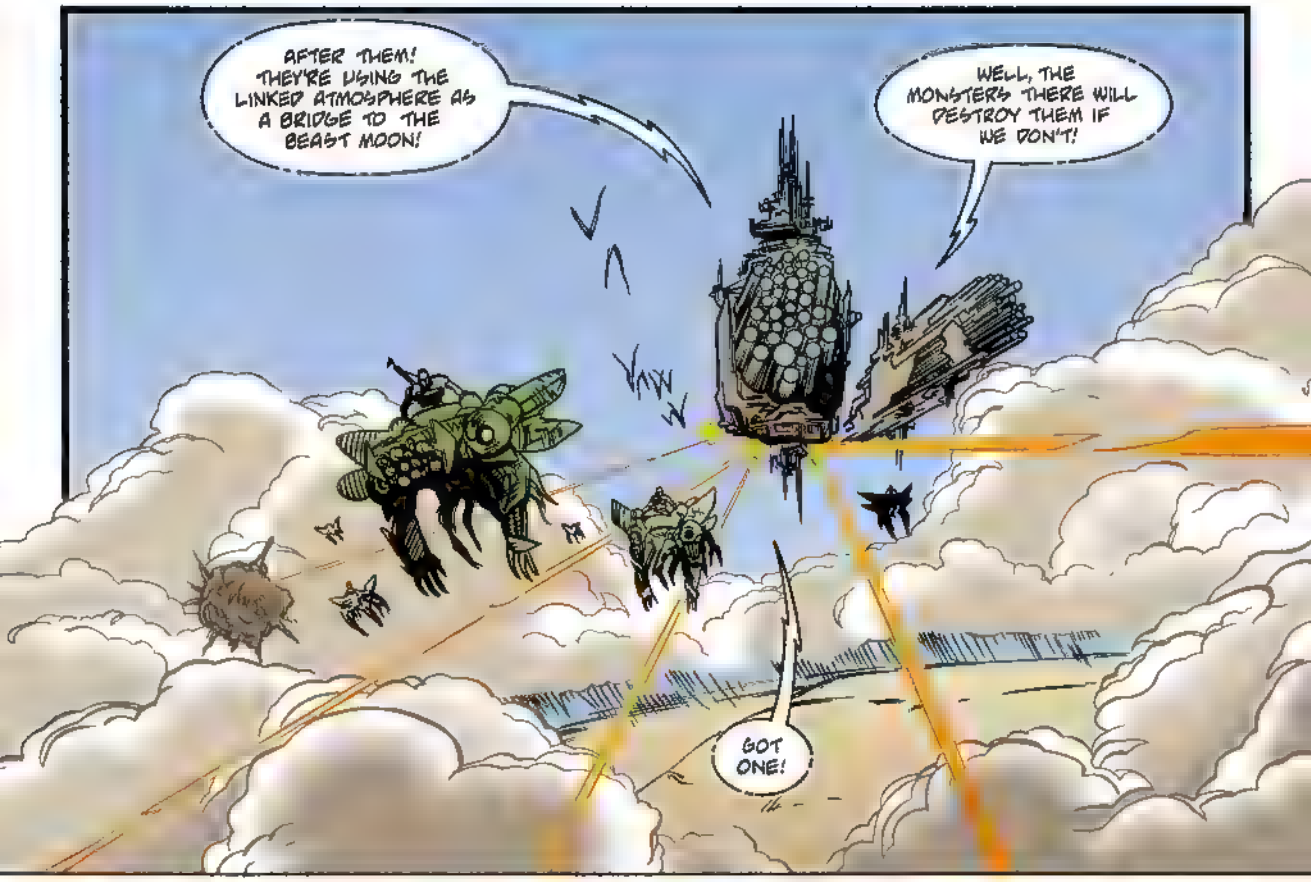
I KNOW WHERE TO FIND HIM.
I CAN TAKE YOU THERE...
...TO YAVIN FOUR!
WE WILL RALLY ALL THE JEDI--ALL JEDI--AGAINST OUR FINAL ENEMY.
WE'VE GOTTA HURRY, THOUGH. THE SHOCKWAVE IS COMING!
HHZZNNN, GET EVERYONE TO THE SHIPS.
I MUST SAY GOOD-BYE TO AN OLD FRIEND FIRST.

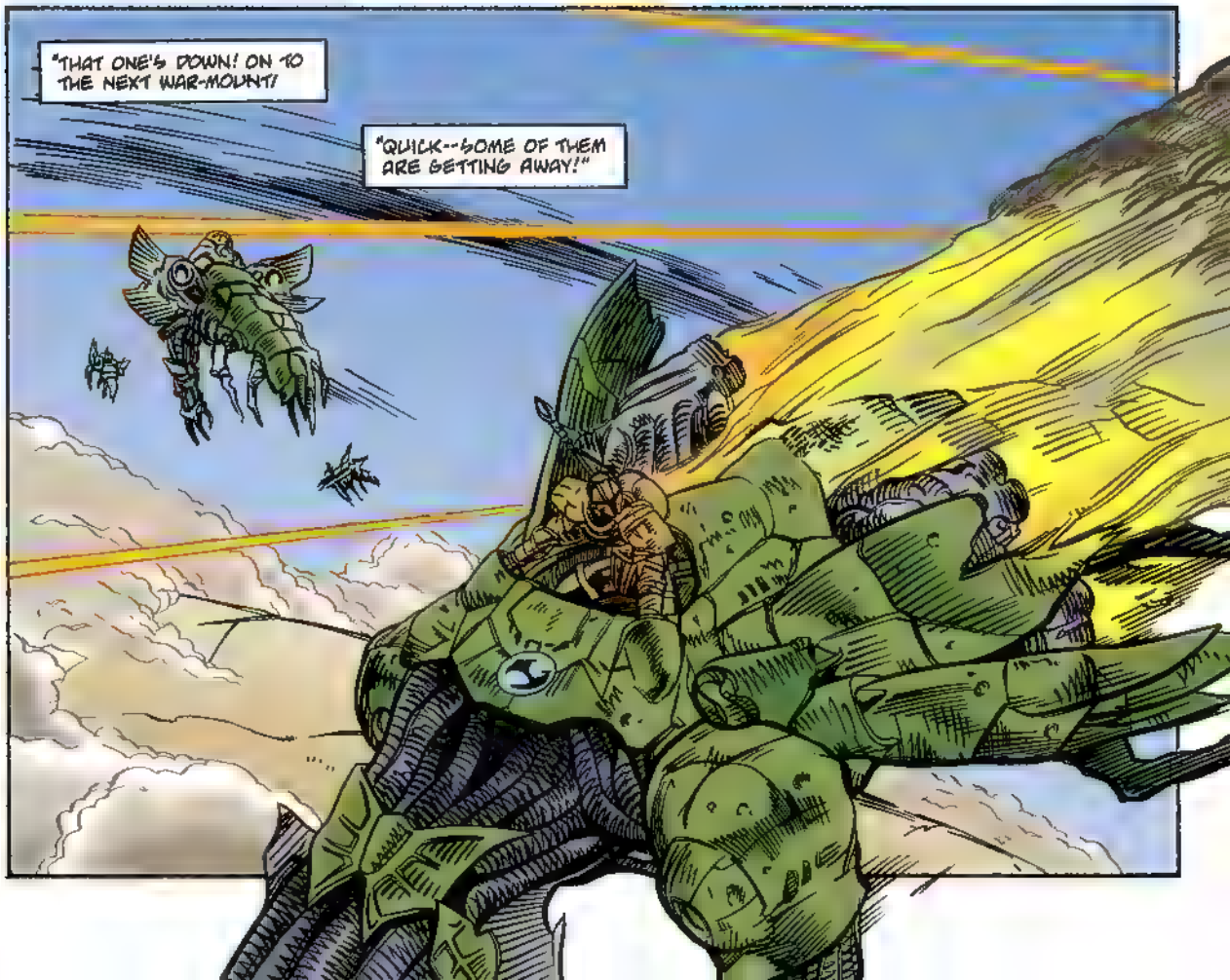
SSZZIRRE, I CANNOT QUESTION WHAT YOU HAVE DONE OOD, MY FRIEND...
...BUT I AM SADDENED TO LOSE YOU IN THIS WAY.
DO NOT GR.EVE FOR ME, THON. THIS IS MY METAMORPHOSIS, MY LIFE CYCLE.
I HAVE SHIELDED MY LIGHTSABER TREASURES... I HAVE DEFEATED EXAR KUN... I AM SATISFIED.
AND PERHAPS, MY FRIEND, OSSUS WILL PROTECT ME... ENOUGH.
MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU, FRIEND...


AS THE SHOCKWAVE STRIKES...
...SHELTER MEANS NOTHING...
...NOT EVEN TO A JEDI MASTER.
THE EXPLOSION OF TEN SUNS SEARS THE FACE OF OSSUS, LIKE A GALACTIC FUNERAL PYRE.
HEY, I'M RECEIVING A FLOOD OF ACKNOWLEDGMENTS FROM ALL JEDI. THOUSANDS OF THEM.
YES, HNNN, THE JEDI KNOW THE SITH MUST BE QUENCHED BY LIGHT, NNGRRR.
ON TO YAVIN 4!

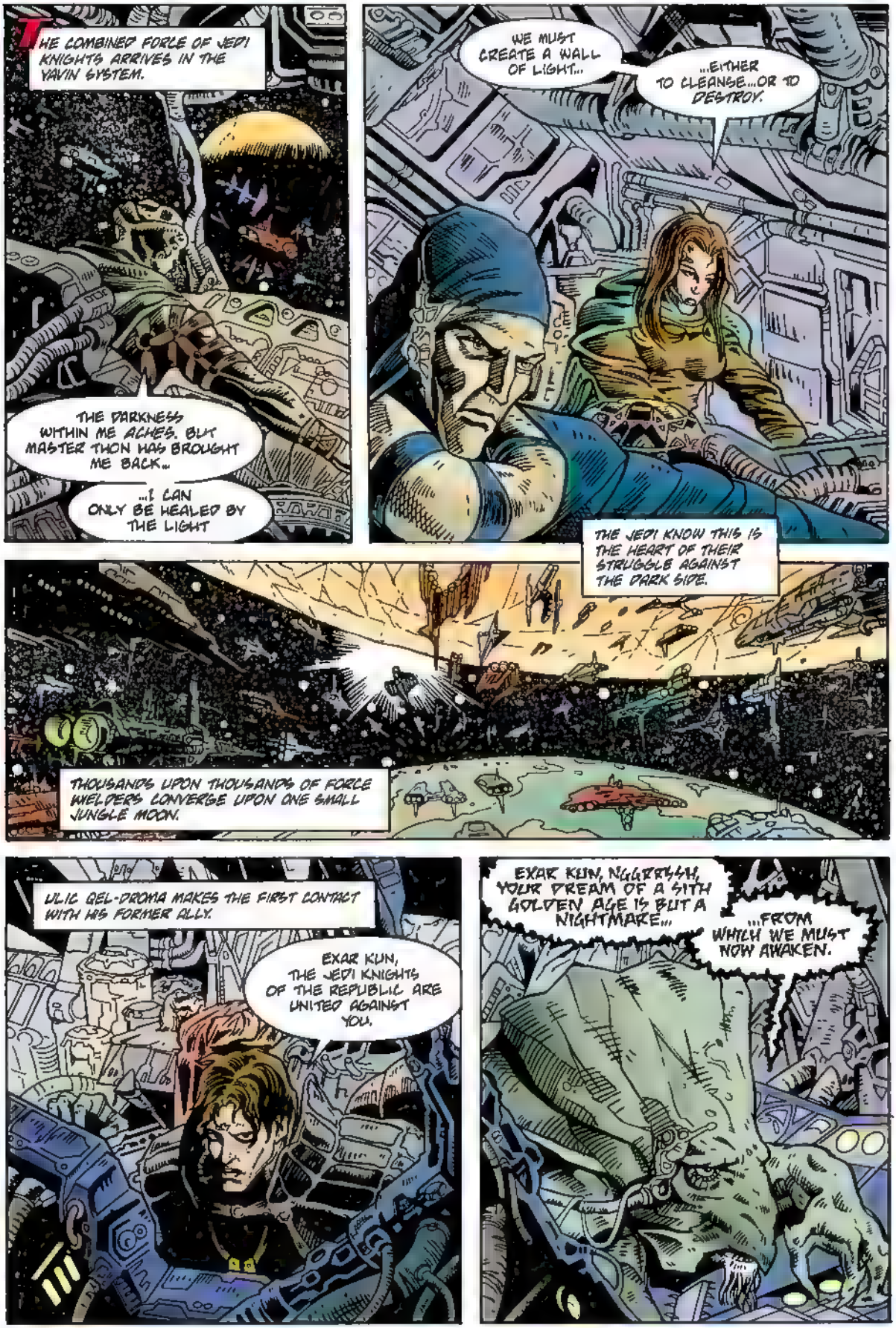
NDERON.
AS THE FIERCE SKY BATTLE CONTINUES BETWEEN THE FLYING BEAST-RIDERS AND THE MANDALORIAN WAR-MOUNTS, A SURPRISE COMES OUT OF THE SKIES.
CAPTAIN VANIUS HERE...
...REPUBLIC REINFORCEMENTS HAVE ARRIVED AS REQUESTED.
MANDALORIAN WARRIORS, SURRENDER! YOUR LORD, ULIC QEL-DROMA, IS DEFEATED!
YOUR CAUSE IS LOST!
NO-- SURRENDER IS BETRAYAL! WE FIGHT. WE CONQUER, OR WE DIE!
THEN YOU'LL HAVE TO DIE, INVADER!

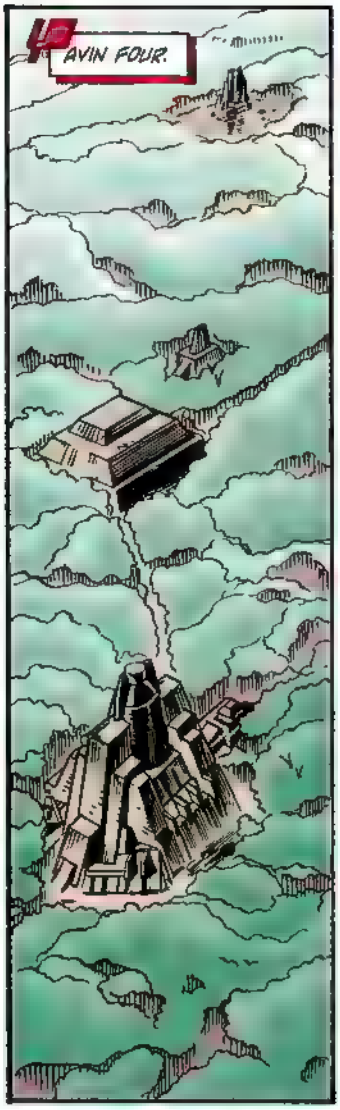
BA-THOOM!
WE'RE DEFEATING THEM!
THOUGH THE MANDALORIAN WARRIORS FIGHT RUTHLESSLY, THE REPUBLIC FIGHTERS AND THE FLYING BEAST-RIDERS HEAVILY OUTGUN THEM.
THEY REFUSE TO SURRENDER, SIR! BECAUSE OF THEIR SHIELDS, A CRIPPLING SHOT IS IMPOSSIBLE.
VERY WELL, THEN HIT THEM WITH EVERYTHING WE'VE GOT!
SEEING HIS ORBITING BATTLESHIPS DESTROYED AND HIS TROOPS DECIMATED, MANDALORE KNOWS ONLY ONE CHANCE FOR SURVIVAL...
WARRIORS, FALL BACK TO THE OXUN MOON!
WE CAN ELUDE PURSUIT IN THE WILD JUNGLES THERE.

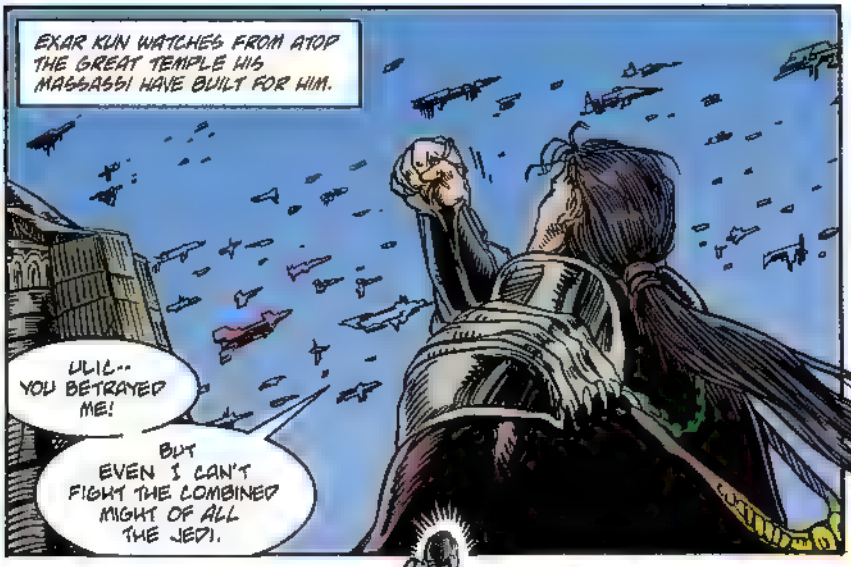

AFTER THEM! THEY'RE USING THE LINKED ATMOSPHERE AS A BRIDGE TO THE BEAST MOON!
WELL, THE MONSTERS THERE WILL DESTROY THEM IF WE DON'T!
GOT ONE!

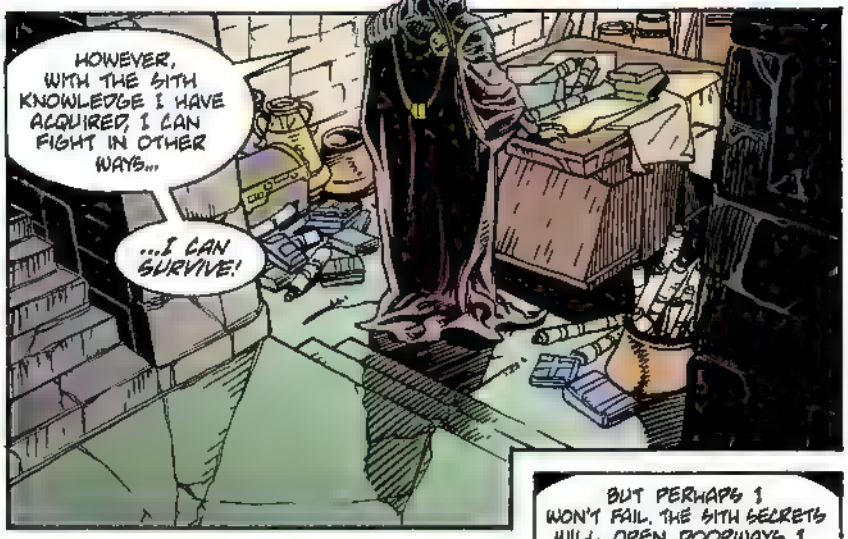

"THAT ONE'S DOWN! ON TO THE NEXT WAR-MOUNT!
"QUICK--SOME OF THEM ARE GETTING AWAY!"

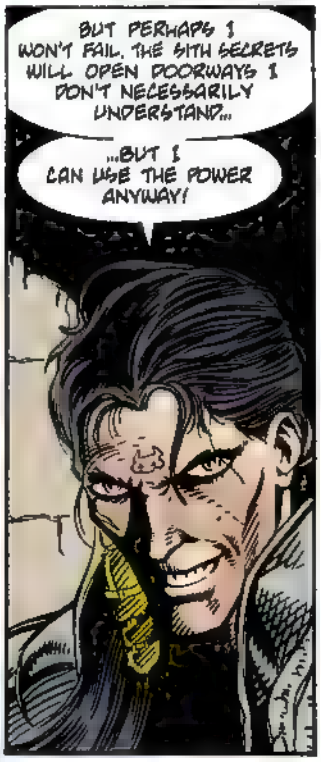
SNIKK!

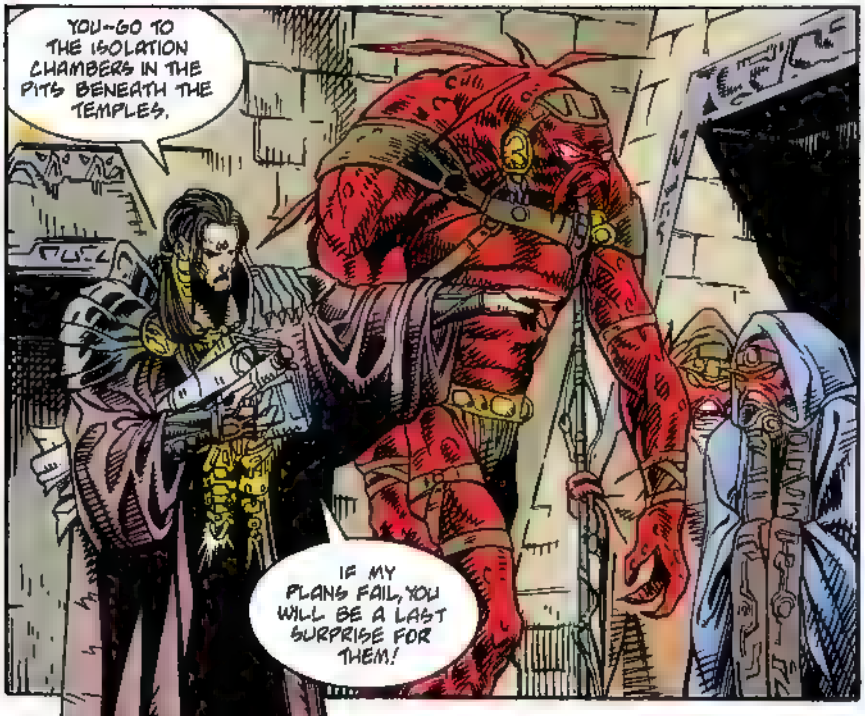

THE COMBINED FORCE OF JEDI KNIGHTS ARRIVES IN THE YAVIN SYSTEM.
THE DARKNESS WITHIN ME ACHES. BUT MASTER THON HAS BROUGHT ME BACK...
...I CAN ONLY BE HEALED BY THE LIGHT
WE MUST CREATE A WALL OF LIGHT...
...EITHER TO CLEANSE...OR TO DESTROY.
THE JEDI KNOW THIS IS THE HEART OF THEIR STRUGGLE AGAINST THE DARK SIDE.
THOUSANDS UPON THOUSANDS OF FORCE WIELDERS CONVERGE UPON ONE SMALL JUNGLE MOON.
ULIC QEL-DROMA MAKES THE FIRST CONTACT WITH HIS FORMER ALLY.
EXAR KUN, THE JEDI KNIGHTS OF THE REPUBLIC ARE UNITED AGAINST YOU.
EXAR KUN, NGGRRSSH, YOUR DREAM OF A SITH GOLDEN AGE IS BUT A NIGHTMARE...
...FROM WHICH WE MUST NOW AWAKEN.

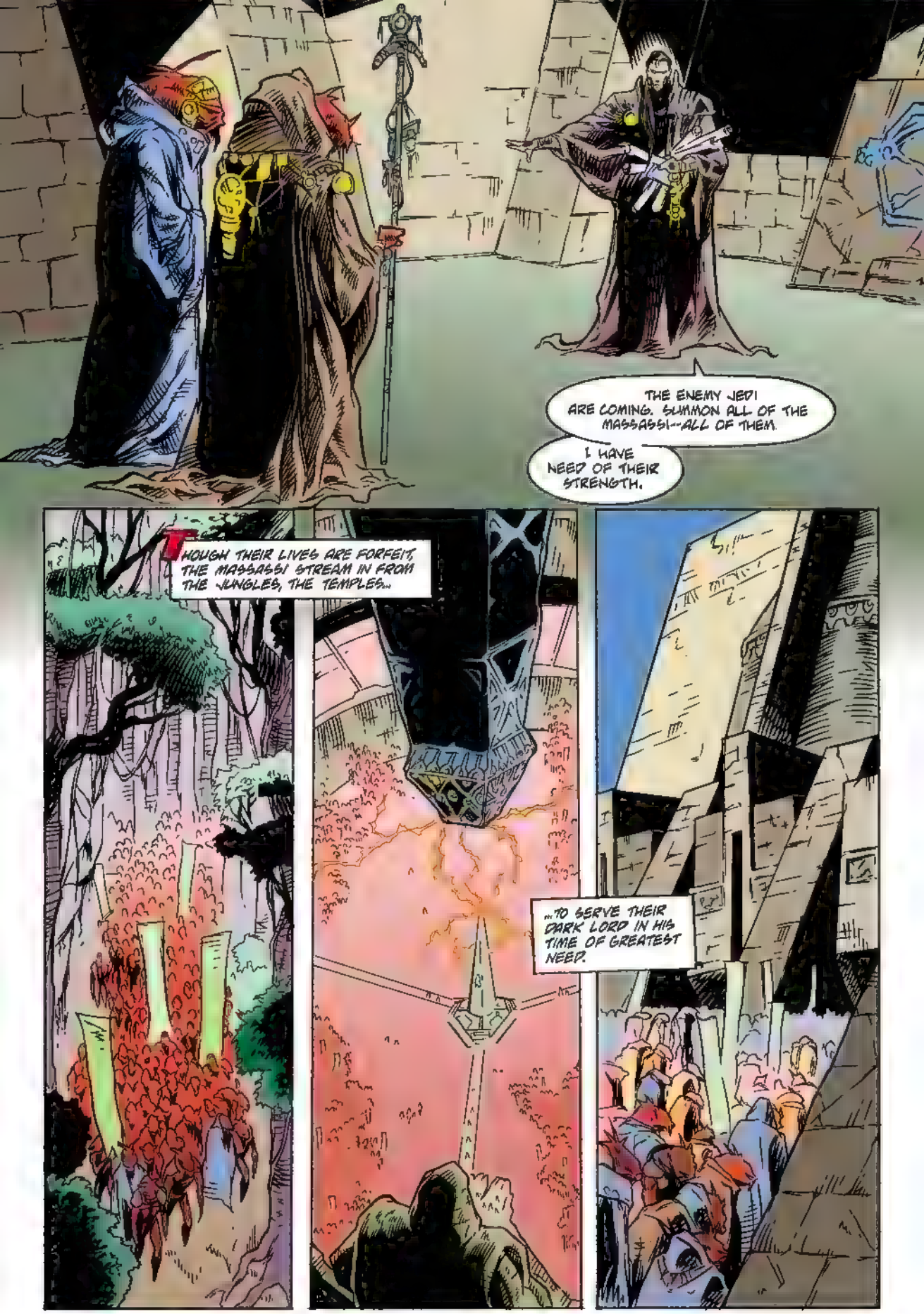

AVIN FOUR.

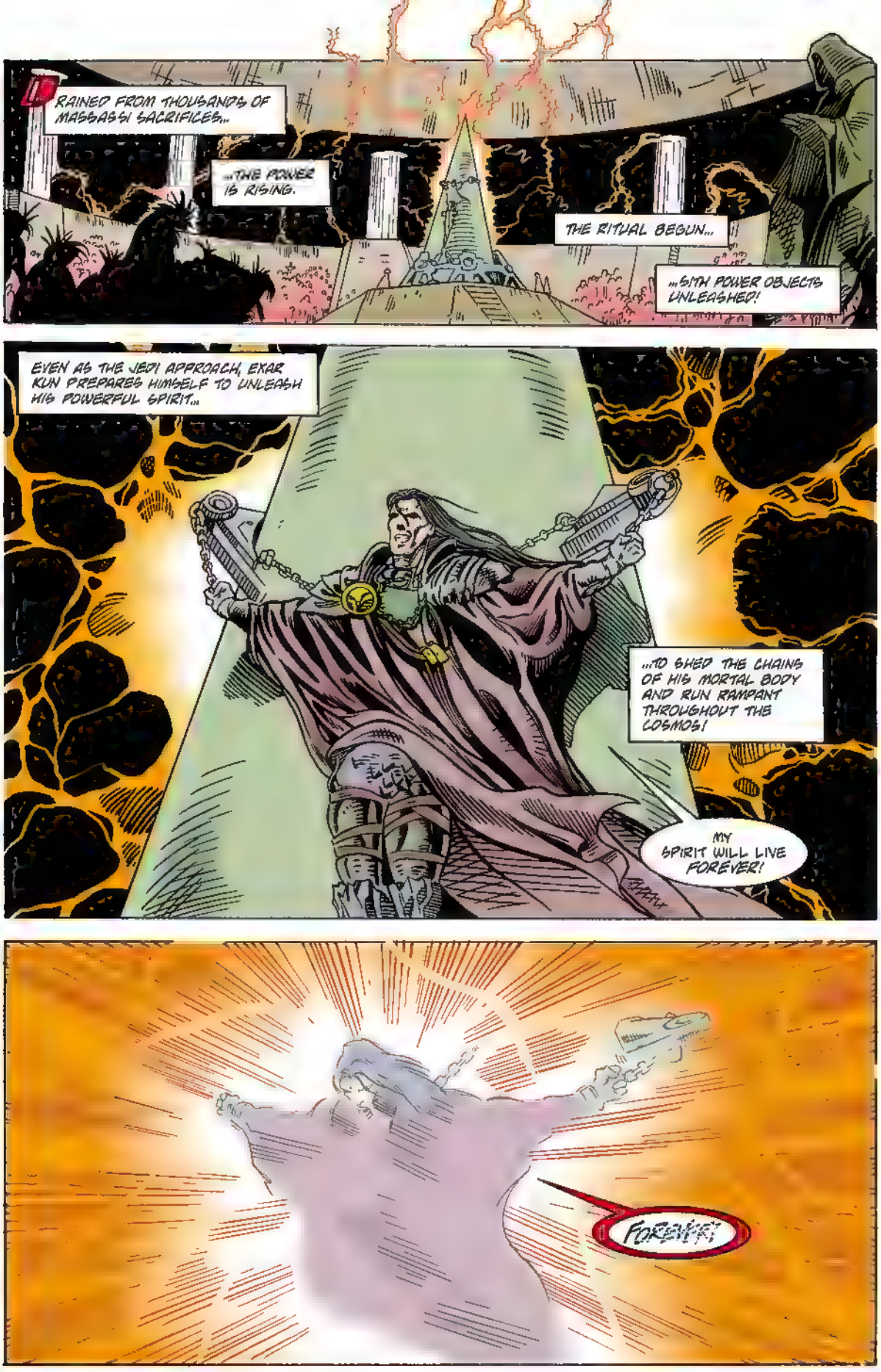

EXAR KUN WATCHES FROM ATOP THE GREAT TEMPLE HIS MASSASSI HAVE BUILT FOR HIM.
ULIC-- YOU BETRAYED ME!
BUT EVEN I CAN'T FIGHT THE COMBINED MIGHT OF ALL THE JEDI.

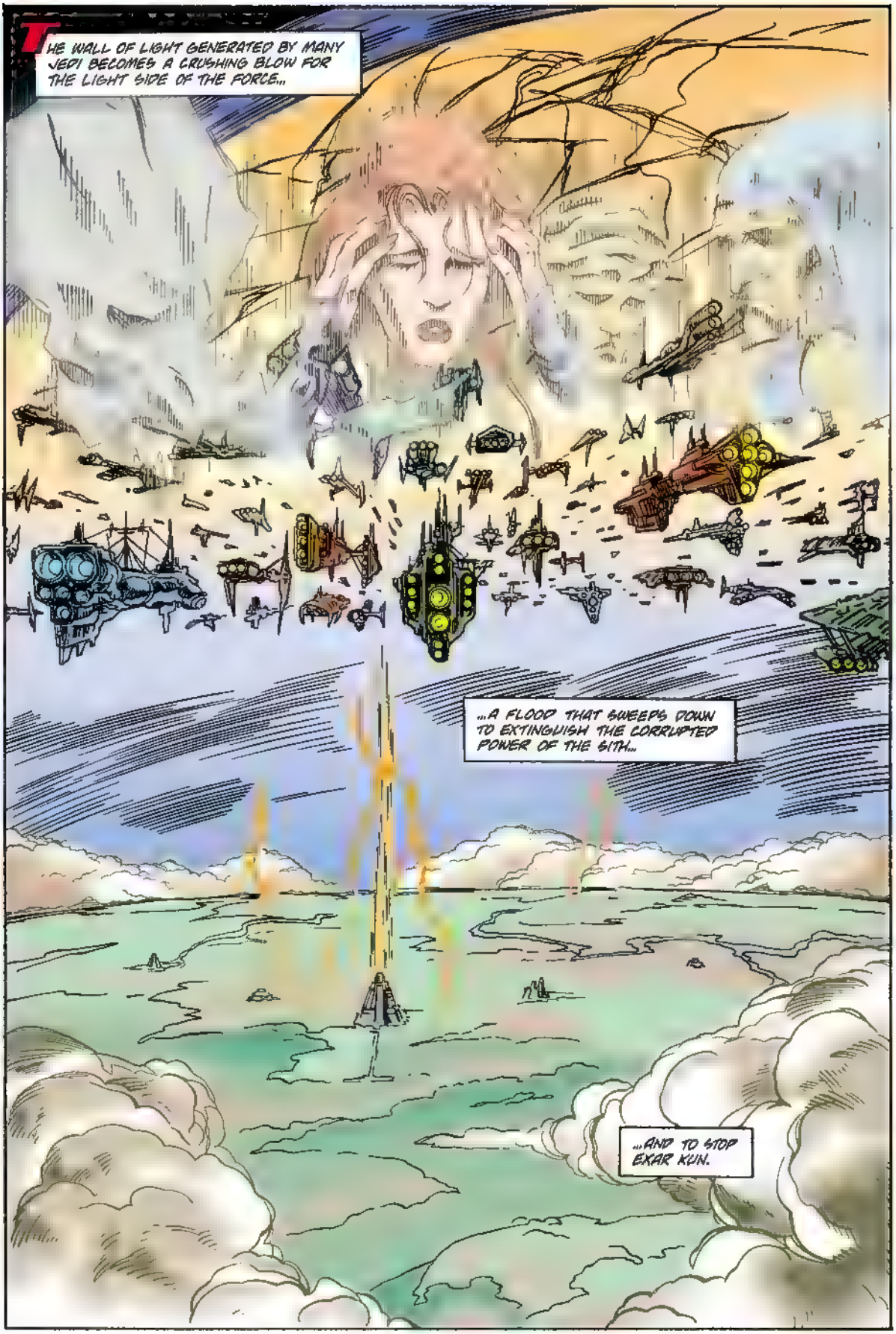

HOWEVER, WITH THE SITH KNOWLEDGE I HAVE ACQUIRED, I CAN FIGHT IN OTHER WAYS...
...I CAN SURVIVE!

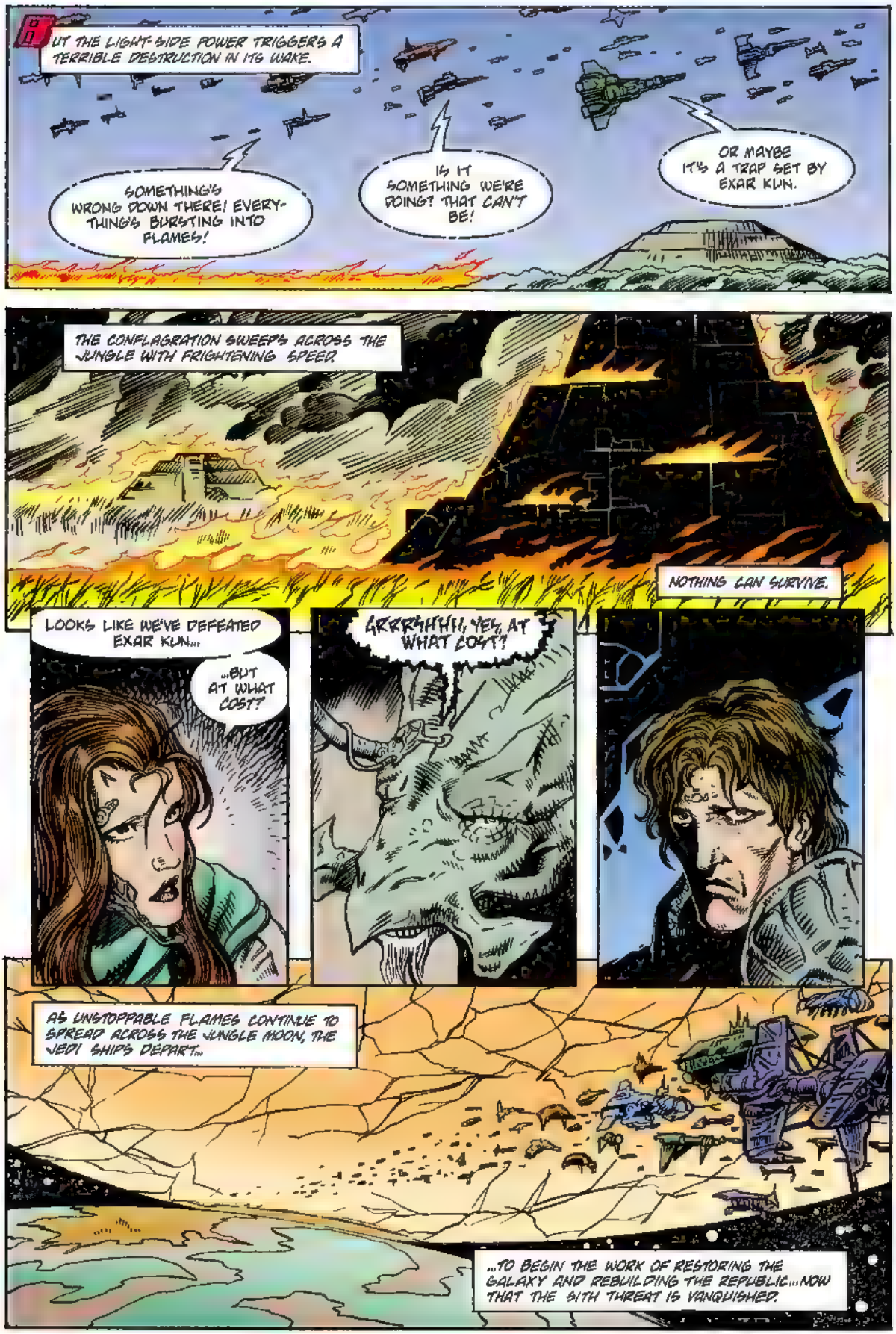

BUT PERHAPS I WON'T FAIL. THE SITH SECRETS WILL OPEN DOORWAYS I DON'T NECESSARILY UNDERSTAND...
...BUT I CAN USE THE POWER ANYWAY!

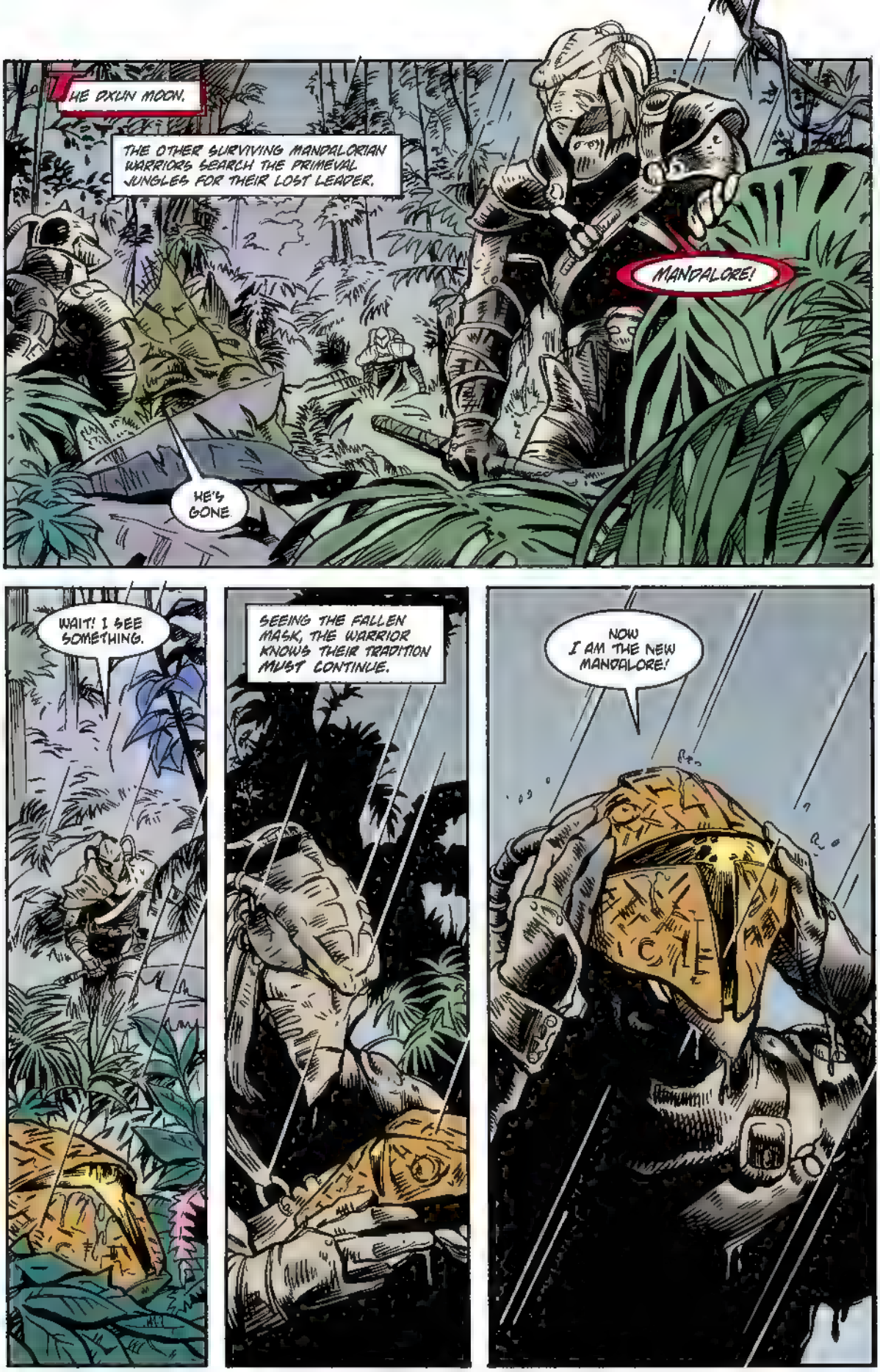

YOU--GO TO THE ISOLATION CHAMBERS IN THE PITS BENEATH THE TEMPLES.
IF MY PLANS FAIL, YOU WILL BE A LAST SURPRISE FOR THEM!


THE ENEMY JEDI ARE COMING. SUMMON ALL OF THE MASSASSI--ALL OF THEM.
I HAVE NEED OF THEIR STRENGTH.
THOUGH THEIR LIVES ARE FORFEIT, THE MASSASSI STREAM IN FROM THE JUNGLES, THE TEMPLES...
...TO SERVE THEIR DARK LORD IN HIS TIME OF GREATEST NEED.


RAINED FROM THOUSANDS OF MASSASSI SACRIFICES...
...THE POWER IS RISING.
THE RITUAL BEGUN...
...SITH POWER OBJECTS UNLEASHED!
EVEN AS THE JEDI APPROACH, EXAR KUN PREPARES HIMSELF TO UNLEASH HIS POWERFUL SPIRIT...
...TO SHED THE CHAINS OF HIS MORTAL BODY AND RUN RAMPANT THROUGHOUT THE COSMOS!
MY SPIRIT WILL LIVE FOREVER!
FOREVER!


THE WALL OF LIGHT GENERATED BY MANY JEDI BECOMES A CRUSHING BLOW FOR THE LIGHT SIDE OF THE FORCE...
...A FLOOD THAT SWEEPS DOWN TO EXTINGUISH THE CORRUPTED POWER OF THE SITH...
...AND TO STOP EXAR KUN.


BUT THE LIGHT-SIDE POWER TRIGGERS A TERRIBLE DESTRUCTION IN ITS WAKE.
SOMETHING'S WRONG DOWN THERE! EVERYTHING'S BURSTING INTO FLAMES!
IS IT SOMETHING WE'RE DOING? THAT CAN'T BE!
OR MAYBE IT'S A TRAP SET BY EXAR KUN.
THE CONFLAGRATION SWEEPS ACROSS THE JUNGLE WITH FRIGHTENING SPEED.
NOTHING CAN SURVIVE.
LOOKS LIKE WE'VE DEFEATED EXAR KUN...
...BUT AT WHAT COST?
GRRRHHH!, YES, AT WHAT COST?
AS UNSTOPPABLE FLAMES CONTINUE TO SPREAD ACROSS THE JUNGLE MOON, THE JEDI SHIPS DEPART...
...TO BEGIN THE WORK OF RESTORING THE GALAXY AND REBUILDING THE REPUBLIC...NOW THAT THE SITH THREAT IS VANQUISHED.


THE OXUN MOON.
THE OTHER SURVIVING MANDALORIAN WARRIORS SEARCH THE PRIMEVAL JUNGLES FOR THEIR LOST LEADER.
MANDALORE!
HE'S GONE
WAIT! I SEE SOMETHING.
SEEING THE FALLEN MASK, THE WARRIOR KNOWS THEIR TRADITION MUST CONTINUE.
NOW I AM THE NEW MANDALORE!

AVIN FOUR--TWO YEARS LATER..
...AFTER COMPLETING A PILGRIMAGE TO THE GRAVE SITE OF HIS BROTHER, A FORMER JEDI CONTINUES HIS LONG AND FRUITLESS SEARCH.
THIS IS ULIC QEL-DROMA... CAN ANYBODY RELEIVE THIS? ANY SURVIVORS DOWN THERE?
ULIC LANDS HIS NEWLY CHRISTENED SHIP, CAY'S DREAM.
I CAN'T STOP MYSELF...
...I HAVE TO SEE WHAT HAPPENED.
EXAR KUN, WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

I'VE SEARCHED THE GALAXY FOR SOME WAY THAT I MIGHT BECOME A JEDI AGAIN...
...THAT I MIGHT SOMEHOW BE FORGIVEN AND EARN BACK MY POWERS.
BUT I AM BLIND AND DEAF TO THE FORCE...I CAN SENSE NOTHING HERE...
...OTHER THAN THE SADNESS AND DESTRUCTION THAT MY OWN EYES TELL ME.
STILL SEARCHING, STILL LOST, ULIC QEL-DROMA WALKS AWAY...
THERE'S NOTHING FOR ME IN THIS PLACE.

ULIC! I CAN FEEL YOU OUT THERE.
IT'S OKEK. I'M TRAPPED. I SURVIVED... BUT I'M TRAPPED.
ULIC!
WHY DON'T YOU ANSWER ME?
DON'T LEAVE ME!
ULIC!
ULICT
THE END

APPROXIMATELY 3,986 YEARS BEFORE THE BATTLE OF YAVIN . . .

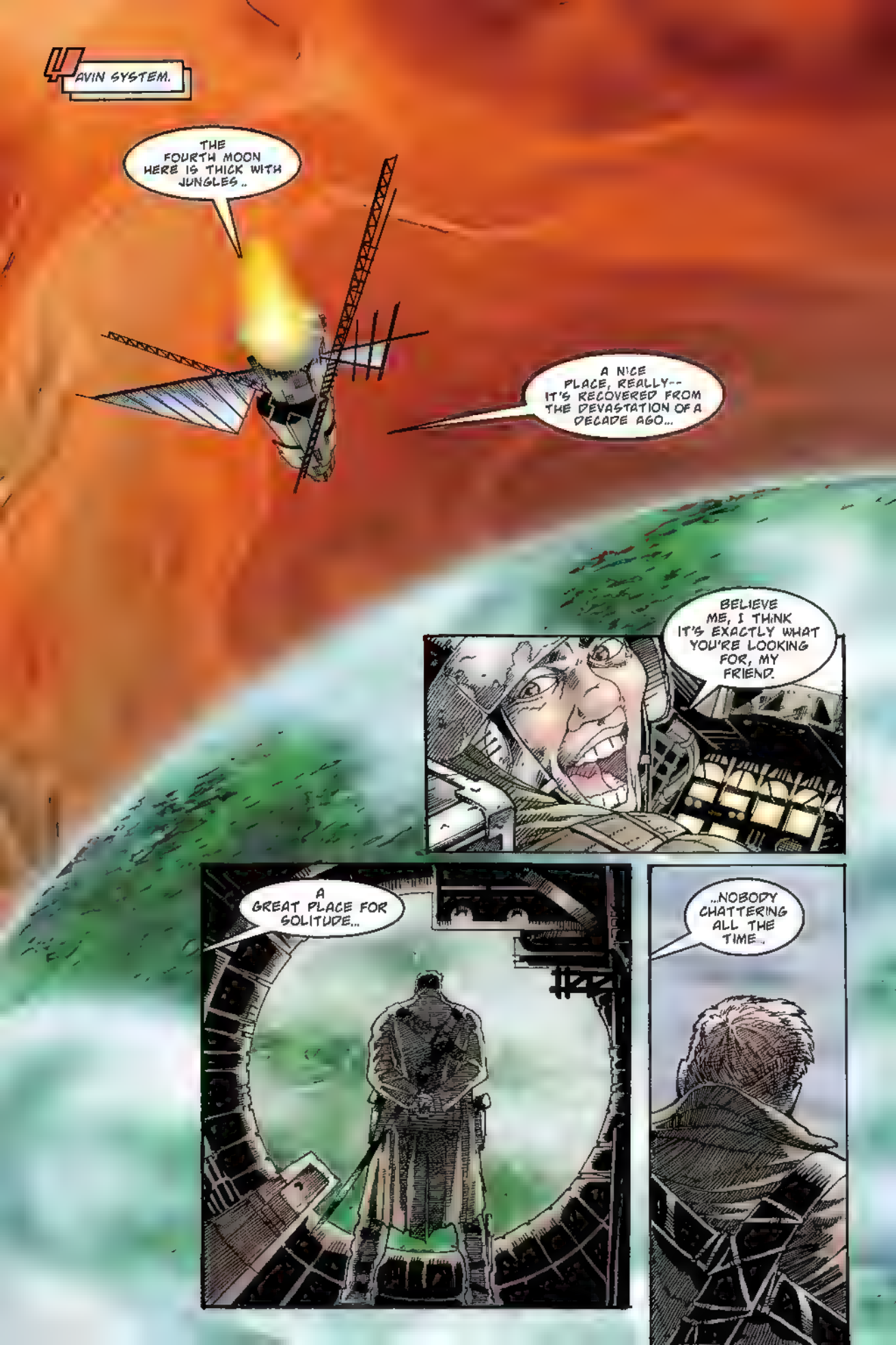
script by Kevin J. Anderson

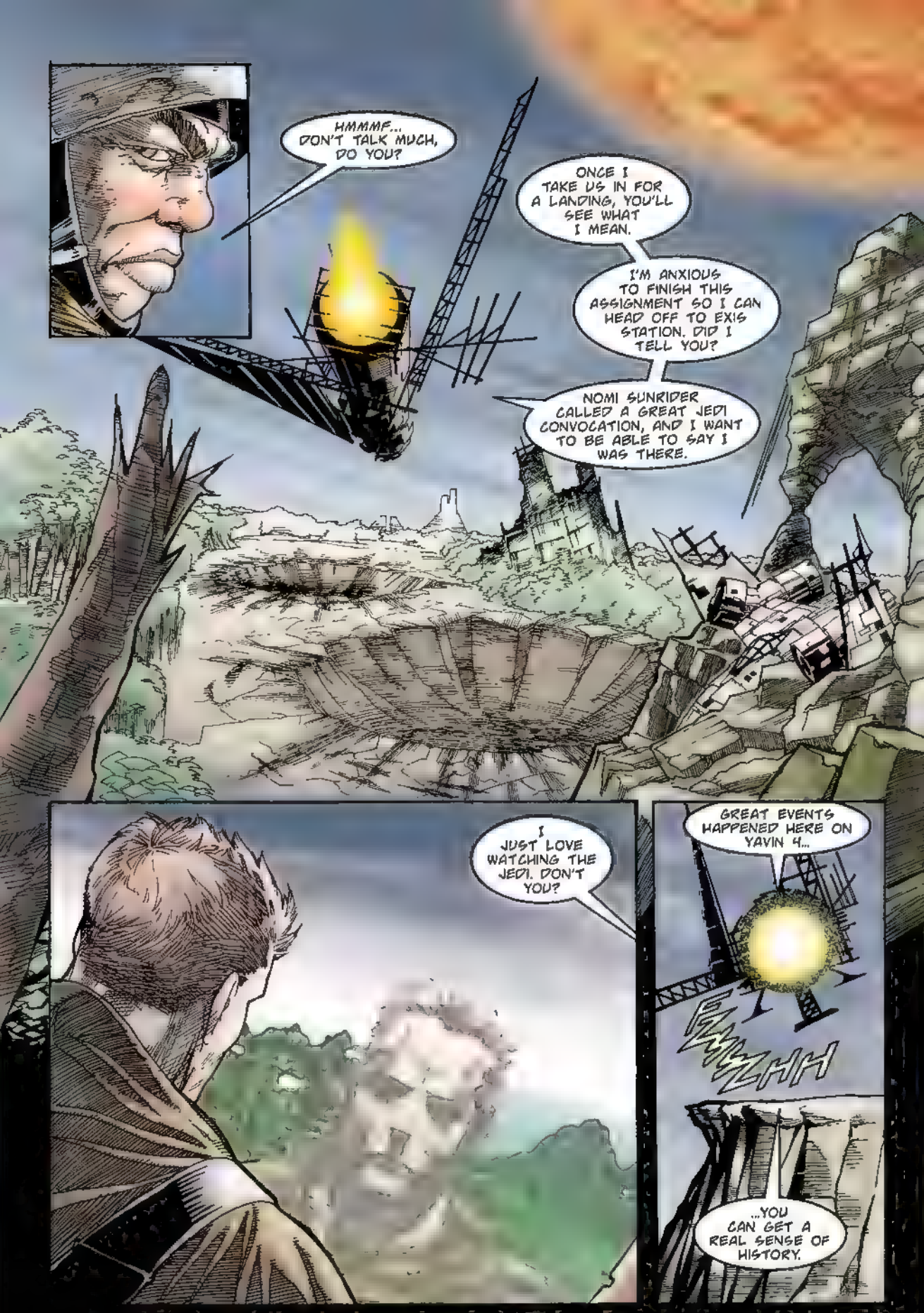
pencils by Chris Gossett

inks by Chris Gossett and Andrew Pepoy

colors by Dave Nestelle

letters by Willie Schubert


4 AVIN SYSTEM.
THE FOURTH MOON HERE IS THICK WITH JUNGLES..
A NICE PLACE, REALLY-- IT'S RECOVERED FROM THE DEVASTATION OF A DECADE AGO...
BELIEVE ME, I THINK IT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR, MY FRIEND.
A GREAT PLACE FOR SOLITUDE...
..NOBODY CHATTERING ALL THE TIME..


HMMMF... DON'T TALK MUCH, DO YOU?
ONCE I TAKE US IN FOR A LANDING, YOU'LL SEE WHAT I MEAN.
I'M ANXIOUS TO FINISH THIS ASSIGNMENT SO I CAN HEAD OFF TO EXIS STATION. DID I TELL YOU?
NOMI SUNRIDER CALLED A GREAT JEDI CONVOCATION, AND I WANT TO BE ABLE TO SAY I WAS THERE.
I JUST LOVE WATCHING THE JEDI. DON'T YOU?
GREAT EVENTS HAPPENED HERE ON YAVIN 4...
ZZZHH
...YOU CAN GET A REAL SENSE OF HISTORY.

THIS WAS EXAR KUN'S MAIN BASE DURING THE SITH WAR...

THOSE RUINS ARE THE TEMPLES HE BUILT...

...BUT ULIC QEL-DROMA BETRAYED HIM IN THE END.

ALL THE GREAT JEDI CAME HERE...

...TO BRING A FINAL DEFEAT TO THE DARK LORD OF THE SITH.

CAN'T YOU JUST IMAGINE THE SHIPS IN THE AIR?

YESSIR, I THINK YAVIN 4 WOULD BE A GREAT PLACE FOR PEACE AND SOLITUDE.

IT GIVES ME SHIVERS TO BE HERE..I CAN ALMOST FEEL THE ECHOES...

...CAN'T YOU?

SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK? YOU PAID ME TO FIND--
NO... THIS WON'T DO.
THIS WON'T DO AT ALL.

RYLOTH...THE TWI'LEK HOMEWORLD.
IN THE NARROW HABITABLE BAND OF TWILIGHT BETWEEN FIERY DAY AND FREEZING NIGHT...
RUN! THE HEAT STORM IS COMING!
...ONE DEFEATED AND EXILED CLAN SEEKS A NEW MOUNTAIN HOME... BUT AT THE WRONG TIME.
TAKE SHELTER IN THE CREVASSES! EVERYBODY, FIND A PLACE!
LEAVE THE POSSESSIONS!
BUT WE'VE LOST EVERYTHING ELSE ALREADY!
OVER HERE! I'VE FOUND ANOTHER ONE--
GET OUT OF THERE! ONLY ROOM FOR ME.
TOTT DONEETA! WE'LL NEVER ALL MAKE IT!

IT IS ALWAYS FOLLY TO RUN FROM A HEAT STORM.

EVEN A JEDI HAS NO WAY TO FIGHT IT.

AAAHHHH!

THERE'S NO TIME..

..I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING...

...THERE MUST BE A WAY...

...A JEDI WOULD FIND A WAY.

MUST CONCENTRATE...

AT FIRST THE STORM BUCKLES...

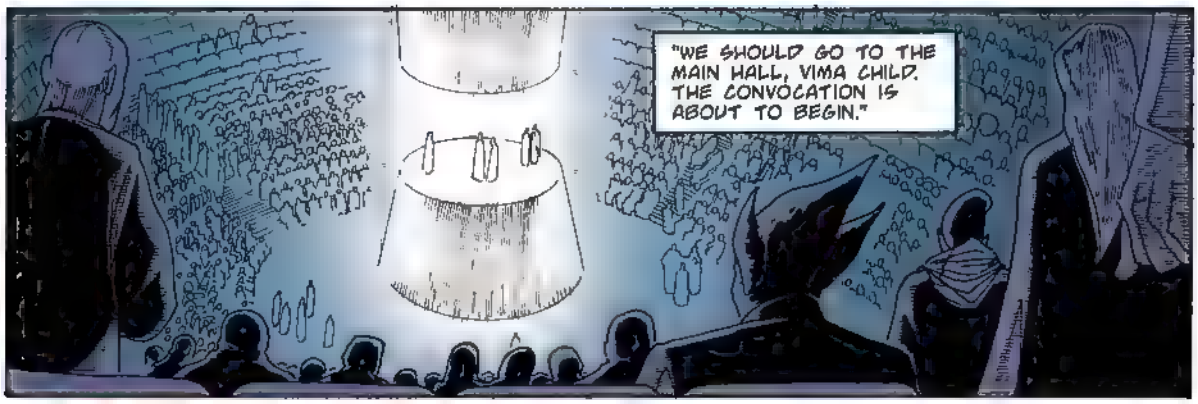
...AND THEN FIGHTS BACK!

AYAARRGGHHH!

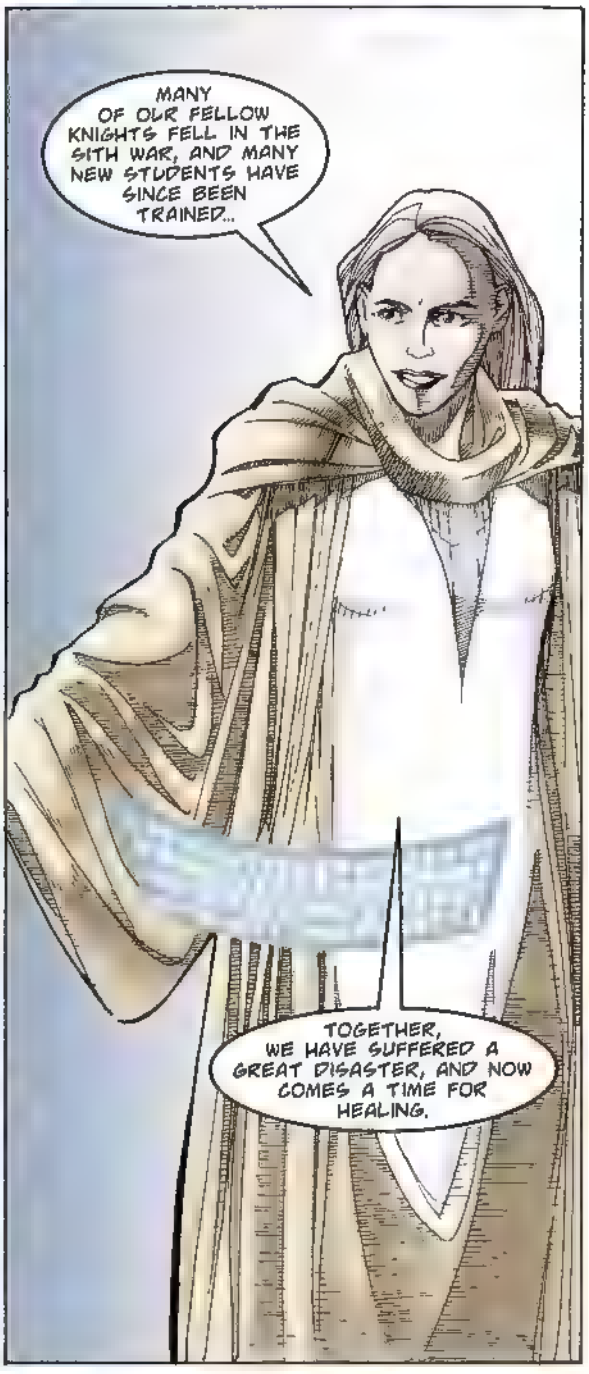
THE HEAT STORM PASSES AS QUICKLY AS IT AROSE.
I FOUND TOTT DONEETA!
IS HE DEAD?
HIS FACE...!
UUHHHHRRR...
YOU MUST REST.
COME WITH US. WE WILL HELP YOU HEAL.
NO...I CAN'T STAY. I MUST LEAVE RYLOTH...
...FOR THE GREAT JEDI CONVOCATION

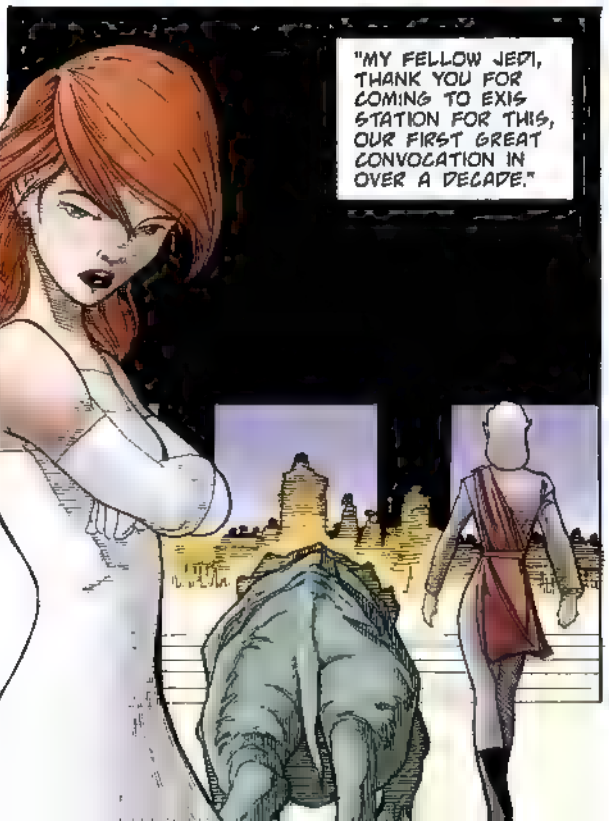
EXIS STATION...
...AN ION MINING AND SOLAR-FLARE SKIMMING FACILITY IN THE TEEDIO SYSTEM.
A DECADE AFTER THE END OF THE SITH WAR, NOMI SUNRIDER HAS CALLED ALL JEDI TOGETHER, TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF THE REPUBLIC.

MASTER THON? YOU CAME!
NGGK HHRA? AND VIMA SUNRIDER--CHILD, YOU LOOK MORE LIKE YOUR MOTHER EVERY DAY.
ARE YOU TOO OLD TO HUG MASTER THON?
I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE. MY MOM IS SO BUSY WITH THE MEETING SHE'S NOT BOTHERING TO GREET ANYBODY.
LET ME SHOW YOU AROUND!
THON, GREETINGS.
I HOPE THE JEDI HAVE COME TO THIS CONVOCATION TO LISTEN, FOR I HAVE MUCH TO SAY.
SYLVAR, YOU HAVE GROWN TOO BITTER...
BUT I AM GLAD TO SEE YOU NEVERTHELESS.
IT'S TOUGH TO GET ANY MINING DONE...
...THIS PLACE IS CRAWLING WITH JEDI. EXIS STATION IS LIKE SOME KIND OF RESORT!

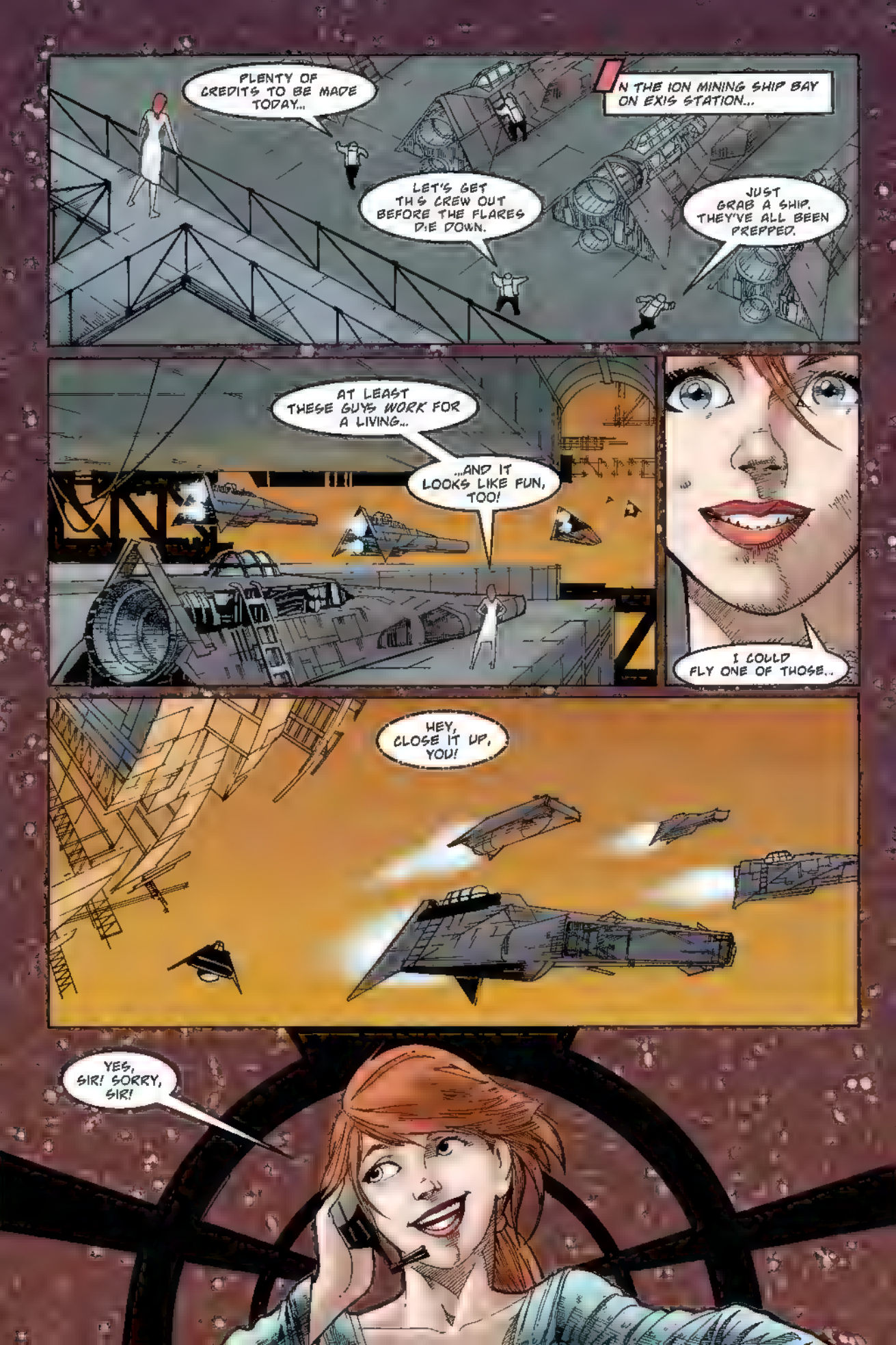

"WE SHOULD GO TO THE MAIN HALL, VIMA CHILD. THE CONVOCATION IS ABOUT TO BEGIN."

MASTER THON, LOOK AT THESE HISTORICAL PLAQUES. IT'S PART OF THE EXHIBIT THAT WE SET UP --
COME, THON. NOMI HAS STARTED SPEAKING.


MANY OF OUR FELLOW KNIGHTS FELL IN THE SITH WAR, AND MANY NEW STUDENTS HAVE SINCE BEEN TRAINED...
TOGETHER, WE HAVE SUFFERED A GREAT DISASTER, AND NOW COMES A TIME FOR HEALING.


"MY FELLOW JEDI, THANK YOU FOR COMING TO EXIS STATION FOR THIS, OUR FIRST GREAT CONVOCATION IN OVER A DECADE."

WAR HAS SPANNED THE GALAXY, BUT NOW IT IS OVER. WE CAN NEVER FORGET THE DEAD--BUT WE MUST ALSO NOT FORGET THE FUTURE..
"WE MUST TRUST IN THE FORCE. AS LONG AS THERE ARE JEDI KNIGHTS, THERE IS HOPE."
BLAH, BLAH, BLAH...
IF MY MOTHER IS SUCH A HERO, HOW COME ALL SHE EVER DOES IS TALK?
NOMI HAS GROWN TO BE AN EVEN GREATER JEDI THAN I HAD HOPED. THEY LISTEN TO HER...
...THEY FOLLOW HER...
I KNOW YOUR DREAMS ARE THE SAME AS MINE...
YESSS, BUT STILL ULIC QEL-DROMA LIVES, FREE...
...A WAR CRIMINAL, UNPUNISHED
WE MUST REBUILD THE REPUBLIC AND RESTORE ITS GLORY..
WHATEVER...


PLENTY OF CREDITS TO BE MADE TODAY...
IN THE ION MINING SHIP BAY ON EXIS STATION...
LET'S GET THIS CREW OUT BEFORE THE FLARES DIE DOWN.
JUST GRAB A SHIP. THEY'VE ALL BEEN PREPPED.
AT LEAST THESE GUYS WORK FOR A LIVING..
...AND IT LOOKS LIKE FUN, TOO!
I COULD FLY ONE OF THOSE..
HEY, CLOSE IT UP, YOU!
YES, SIR! SORRY, SIR!

HEY, YOU! GET BACK IN FORMATION!
YOU'RE CROSSING OUR ION WEB! HOW DO YOU EXPECT US TO HARVEST THE PLASMA?
IDIOT! CAN'T YOU SEE THAT STORM CELL BOILING IN THE CHROMO-SPHERE?
HEY, I'VE GOT IT UNDER CONTROL.
WHAT'S GOING ON? THE CONTROLS JUST WENT DEAD!
YOU'RE CAUGHT IN A MAGNETIC LOOP.
I CAN'T PULL UP!

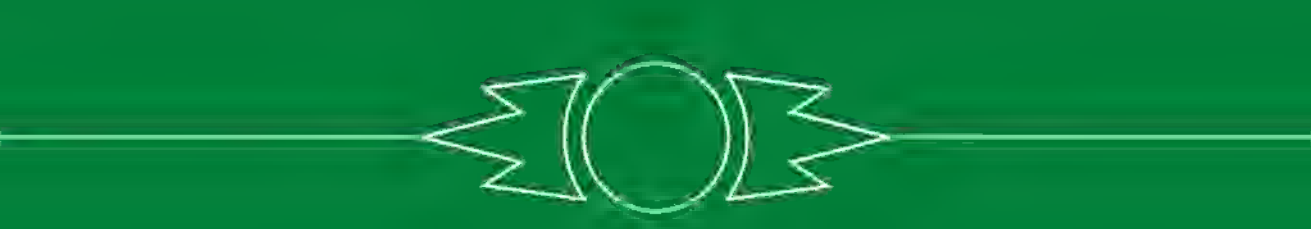
THE JEDI KNIGHTS WILL FORM A NEW COUNCIL TO--
VIMA? WHAT?!
HRRHSSH! THE GIRL IS IN DANGER.
...FIRE... SOMEONE TOO CLOSE..
...HULL IS MELTING! I'M BEING DRAGGED INTO THE SUN!
I'M PUNCHING THE ESCAPE POD.
SOMEBODY GRAB ME BEFORE I FALL INTO--
I'M NOT RISKING MY CREW FOR SOME FOOL GIRL INTENT ON SUICIDE!
DON'T WORRY, I'VE GOT HER!
GRAPPLES SECURE, VIMA SUNRIDER.
KLANNG

LIFEPOD INTACT, AND THE OCCUPANT UNDAMAGED...
...I'M HEADING BACK TO EXIS STATION.
INFORM NOMI SUNRIDER TO MEET US THERE.
GOOD THING I WAS LATE FOR THE JEDI CONVOCATION, LITTLE ONE.
VIMA, YOU'RE SAFE! TOTT DONEETA, THANK YOU!
I COULD SENSE YOUR FEAR, VIMA. I WAS SO WORRIED --
BUT WHAT WERE YOU DOING? A STUPID RISK OF YOUR LIFE!
HOW CAN YOU EXPECT TO BECOME A JEDI WHEN YOU MAKE SUCH BRASH CHOICES?
YEAH, WELL MAYBE IF YOU WOULD SPEND SOME TIME TRAINING ME AS A JEDI, I COULD HAVE GOTTEN MYSELF OUT OF THIS MESS...

WHEN VAR...A HIBERNATING WORLD JUST EMERGING FROM ITS LATEST ICE AGE...
LET'S TRY THIS PLANET.
A BIT COLD FOR MY TASTES, BUT IT JUST MAY SUIT YOUR, ER, PERSONALITY.
THE CIVILIZATION HERE DIED WHEN THE GLACIERS CAME...
BE CAREFUL, THOUGH...
...WITH THE BIG THAW, A LOT OF THE LANDSCAPE IS UNSTABLE.
...BUT YOU'LL FIND PLENTY OF STRUCTURES STILL INTACT.
H-HEH? LIKE I SAID...
AH, HERE...THIS IS WHAT I WANTED TO SHOW YOU, SIR.

IF YOU LIKE THIS PLACE, THEN I CAN BE ON MY WAY AND STILL SEE SOME OF THE JEDI CONVOCATION!
YES, HOGGON, I AM SATISFIED...
THIS PLACE WILL DO NICELY.

CHAPTER TWO



EXIS STATION.
THIS IS... UH...HOGGON ON APPROACH.
I'M IN A BIT OF A HURRY-- ANY DOCKING SPACES AVAILABLE?
TAKE PORT 77-A--BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO PAY PREMIUM BERTHING RATES.
DAKAR, OLD FRIEND! AM I TOO LATE? HAS THE GREAT JEDI CONVOCATION STARTED YET?
YEAH, THEY'VE BEEN AT IT FOR DAYS.
BUT WHAT DO YOU CARE, HOGGON? YOU'RE NO JEDI.

IT'S ALWAYS BEEN AN INTEREST OF MINE...A FASCINATION
SAY, IS THERE SOMEPLACE I COULD WATCH?
THERE'S AN OLD AIR SHAFT THAT LOOKS DOWN INTO THE GATHERING HALL...
AS LONG AS I'VE GOT A GOOD VIEW...
IT'S SYLVAR! IN PERSON! HEY, I RECOGNIZE A LOT OF THOSE JEDI!
AND HIS NAME IS ULIC QEL-DROMA!
ULIC BETRAYED THE JEDI KNIGHTS...HE BETRAYED US ALL!
AND NOW HE WANDERS FREE, UNPUNISHED.

CONSPIRING WITH EXAR KUN, ULIC BROUGHT DEVASTATING WAR TO THE REPUBLIC.
WE LOST MANY OF OUR GREATEST JEDI IN THE SITH WAR... INCLUDING MY OWN MATE CRADO.
MY PEOPLE, THE CATHAR, MATE FOR LIFE. I WILL NEVER TAKE ANOTHER...
...SO I HAVE DEVOTED MYSELF TO THE JEDI WAY, TO BEING A SOLDIER OF THE FORCE.
ULIC WAS ONCE OUR GREATEST JEDI KNIGHT. NOW HE IS OUR GREATEST SHAME.
ULIC...WHY DID YOU LEAVE ME?
COME ON... HE COULDN'T HAVE BEEN AS BAD AS THAT.

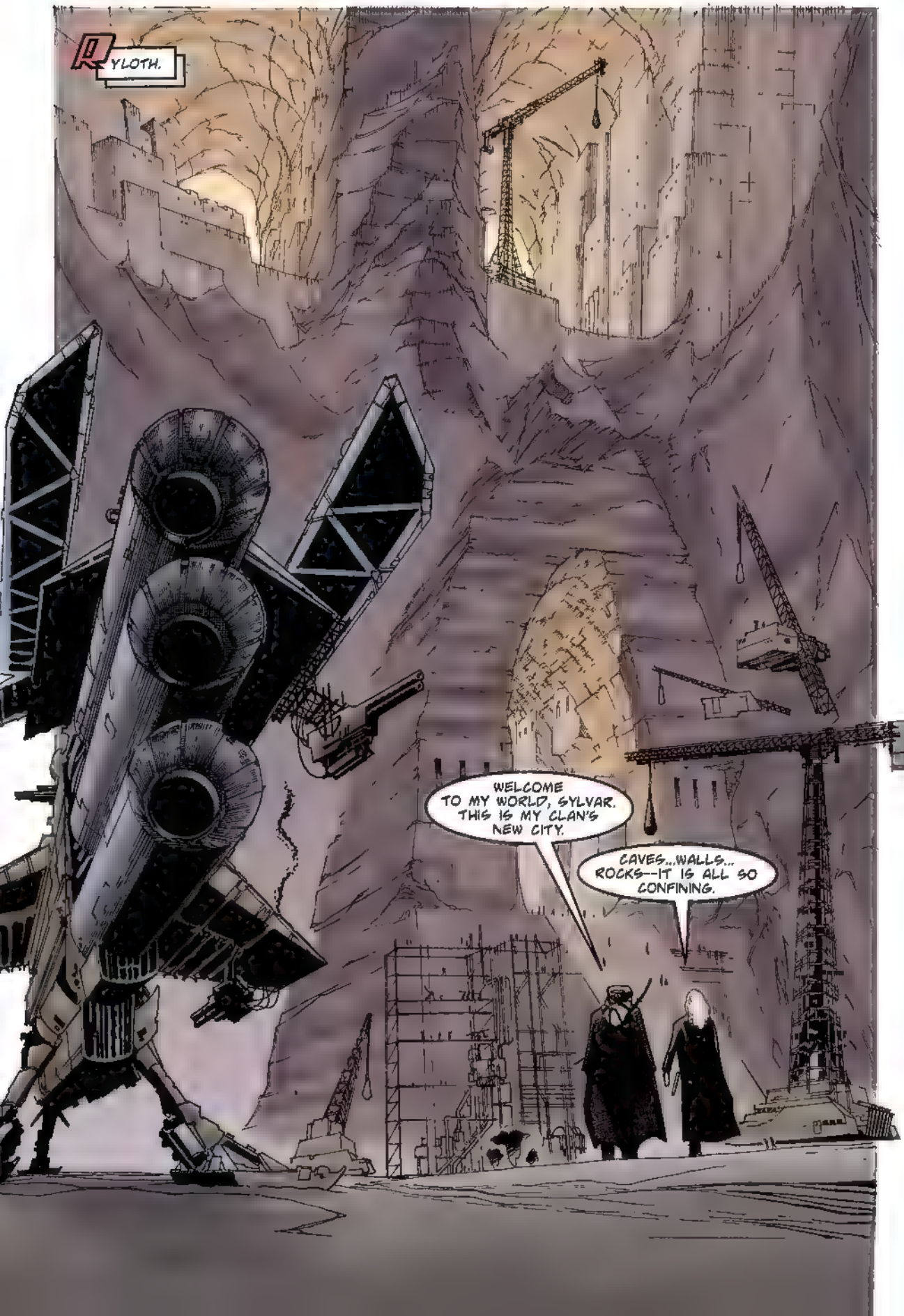
QHEN VAR.
"I AM ALONE.
"THIS PLACE IS SO QUIET, EMPTY...
"...BUT STILL I HAVE NO PEACE.
"THE FORCE HAS ABANDONED ME...

"..I CAN FEEL NOTHING.

"A LIGHTSABER...
"...THE GREAT WEAPON OF MIGHTY JEDI KNIGHTS...
"...AN ENERGY BLADE THAT ONCE MADE DARK SIDERS TREMBLE.
"NOW, IN MY HANDS, THE LIGHTSABER IS NO MORE THAN A...TOOL."

EXIS STATION.
NOMI SUNRIDER! MORE DETAILS FOR THE END OF THE CONVOCATION.
MY MOTHER HAS KEPT THESE HOLOGRAMS FOR AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER...
MY FATHER ANDUR..KILLED WHEN I WAS JUST A BABY.
AND ULIC, MY MOTHER'S SECOND GREAT LOVE...
I THINK SHE RESENTS HIM MORE FOR LEAVING US THAN FOR WHAT HE DID DURING THE WAR.
BACK THEN, THE JEDI SEEMED SO MUCH MORE HEROIC.
CAN YOU WORK WITH ME ON MY JEDI TRAINING NOW? I'M ANXIOUS TO LEARN WHAT I CAN--
NOT TODAY, VIMA. THE CONVOCATION IS JUST WINDING DOWN, AND I HAVE A THOUSAND DETAILS TO LOOK AFTER.
IT'LL BE SOON THOUGH...I PROMISE.
PROMISE, PROMISE, PROMISE...

A REAL JEDI IS RESOURCE-FUL.
I'LL JUST HAVE TO FIND MY OWN TRAINER...MAYBE EVEN ULIC HIMSELF!
I'LL OPEN MY MIND, MY THOUGHTS..
..LET THE FORCE TAKE ME WHERE IT WANTS ME TO GO
SYLVAR, I SENSE SO MUCH ANGER IN YOU...
YES, IT IS LIKE A STORM...IT MAKES ME STRONG.
WE HAVE A SAYING ON RYLOTH--
ONE CANNOT DEFEAT A HEAT STORM. ONE MUST RIDE IT.
COME WITH ME TO RYLOTH. THERE IS MUCH WE CAN DO.


RYLOTH.
WELCOME TO MY WORLD, SYLVAR. THIS IS MY CLAN'S NEW CITY.
CAVES...WALLS... ROCKS--IT IS ALL SO CONFINING.

TOTT DONEETA! YOU'VE COME! WE LIVE IN FEAR.
THE R'LYEK CLAN HAS ATTACKED. HELP US!
"WE FOUGHT, BUT WE ARE FEW. THIS IS OUR NEW CITY, OUR DEFENSES ARE NOT YET SET.
"THEY SLAUGHTERED MANY OF US--AS THEY HAVE DONE IN THE PAST!"
THIS HAS GONE ON FOR TOO MANY GENERATIONS, AT THE COST OF MANY LIVES ON BOTH SIDES
I AM A JEDI-- I MUST SPEAK WITH BOTH CLAN LEADERS. I MUST *MAKE* THEM LISTEN.
SYLVAR, WHILE I AM GONE, GO UP THERE AND HELP MY PEOPLE.

GOOD, ANOTHER WORKER.
YOU CAN HELP US REINFORCE THAT WALL. REMOVE THIS DEBRIS.
I AM A WARRIOR, NOT A STONEMASON.
IF YOU WANT ME TO HELP, LET ME HELP YOU TO FIGHT BACK.
I'LL USE THIS TOOL, BUT FOR A GREATER PURPOSE--TO FREE YOUR CLAN.
IF THE R'LYEK CLAN HAS PREYED UPON YOU FOR YEARS, IT IS TIME FOR YOU TO STRIKE BACK!
YOU ALL HAVE WEAPONS! YOU KNOW WHERE THEIR WOMEN AND CHILDREN HIDE.
I AM A JEDI KNIGHT. I WILL LEAD YOU IN A BATTLE THAT YOU CAN WIN.

YOU CAN HURT THEM IN THE WAY THEY HAVE HURT YOU, HURT YOUR FAMILIES!
FOLLOW ME, AND WE CAN PUT AN END TO THIS BLOOD-SHED.
WE CAN STOP THEM FOREVER!
YES, LISTEN TO THE JEDI!
STOP!
PEACE DOES NOT COME THROUGH MORE SPILLED BLOOD!
I HAVE ALREADY SPOKEN TO THE CLAN LEADERS, AND WE HAVE REACHED A RESOLU-TION.
ACCORDING TO TWI'LEK TRADITION...

YOU WERE TOO QUICK TO CHOOSE THE PATH OF VIOLENCE, SYLVAR.
I HAVE FOUND ANOTHER WAY.
THE BLOODSHED BETWEEN CLANS HAS LASTED FOR GENERATIONS--AND IT MUST END HERE.
THE TWO CLAN LEADERS WILL GO TOGETHER INTO THE BRIGHT LANDS..
...AND A NEW HEAD-CLAN WILL JOIN THESE TWO TRIBES.
BECAUSE OF THEIR SACRIFICE, THERE WILL BE PEACE AGAIN.
THEY WILL PERISH OUT THERE..BETTER A DEATH IN BATTLE.
THIS IS NOT MY WAY.
TAKE ME HOME..TO CATHAR.

QUEEN VAR.

"...COLD.

"DEATH...IF I AM NOT DEAD YET, I WILL BE SOON.

"NO MATTER...I CAME TO THIS PLACE TO DIE.

"NOW IS AS GOOD A TIME AS ANY.

"I HAVE BETRAYED NOMI...

"...KILLED MY OWN BROTHER.

"COLD...COLD...MY HEART IS LIKE THE ICE AROUND ME.

"WHY WON'T IT JUST STOP BEATING?"

"BECAUSE YOU MUST LIVE, ULIC QEL-DROMA..."

"MASTER ARCAI ARE YOU REAL, OR ARE YOU JUST ANOTHER GHOST...

"...LIKE ALL THE OTHERS?"

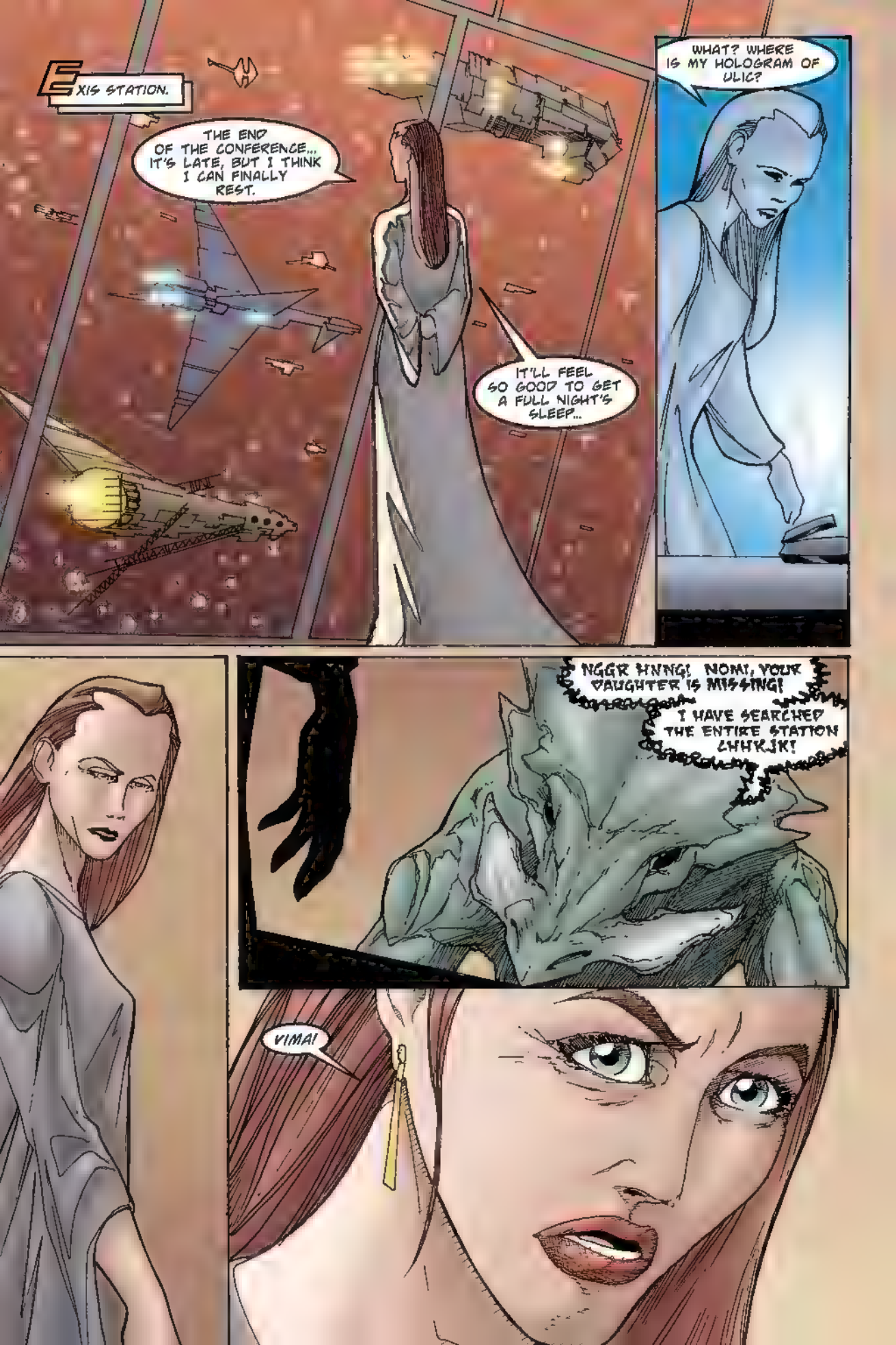
"THERE ARE NO SIMPLE ANSWERS, MY SON. LIFE IS NOT SIMPLE.

"BUT STILL, YOU MUST LIVE ...OR ARE YOU *TOO MUCH A COWARD* FOR LIFE?"

"I CAN'T. I HAVE NO JEDI POWERS."

"YOU HAVE WHAT YOU HAVE ALWAYS HAD, MY SON.
"YOU HAVE YOUR INNER STRENGTH."
"I OWE YOU SO MUCH, MASTER ARCA.
"I WILL DO THIS FOR YOU.
"I WILL LIVE..."

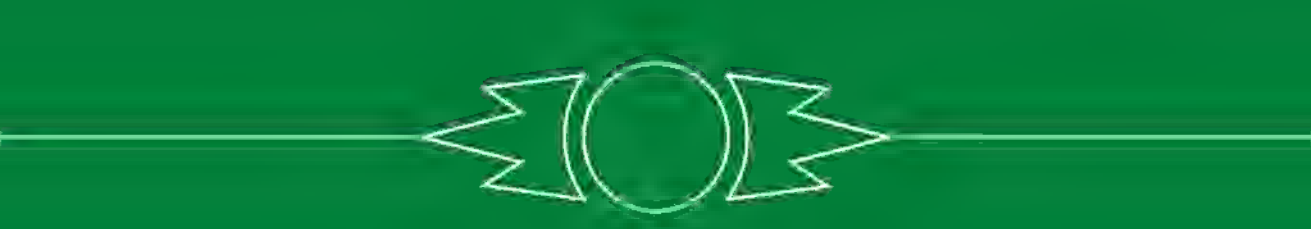
...BUT FOR WHAT?


EXIS STATION.
THE END OF THE CONFERENCE... IT'S LATE, BUT I THINK I CAN FINALLY REST.
IT'LL FEEL SO GOOD TO GET A FULL NIGHT'S SLEEP...
WHAT? WHERE IS MY HOLOGRAM OF ULIC?
NGGR HNNG! NOMI, YOUR DAUGHTER IS MISSING!
I HAVE SEARCHED THE ENTIRE STATION CHHKJK!
VIMA!

OGGON'S SHIP.
THUMMPK!
WHAT WAS THAT?
SHIP FALLING APART AGAIN?
I THOUGHT I HEARD SOMETHING...AND IT ISN'T MORE MYNOCKS!
WAIT! I'M ON A QUEST.
I'M...I'M LOOKING FOR ULIC QEL-DROMA!
SURE, STOWAWAY. WE'D ALL LIKE TO FIND HIM.
REALLY! HE'S A FRIEND OF MY MOTHER'S. LOOK.
THAT'S ULIC?!
I SENSE YOU KNOW SOMETHING. PLEASE TAKE ME TO HIM!
I CAN PAY YOU WELL.

RHEN VAR.
ARE YOU SURE THIS IS THE PLACE?
I DROPPED HIM OFF HERE, IN A FROZEN FORTRESS.
IF HE REALLY IS ULIC, YOU'RE CRAZY TO GO TO HIM.
IF HE REALLY IS ULIC, I WANT HIM TO TRAIN ME AS A JEDI.
MAKE SURE YOU HAVE YOUR PACK AND SUPPLIES, GIRL.
RHEN VAR ISN'T A VERY FRIENDLY PLACE.
TAKE THIS TRANSMITTER. IF YOU NEED ANYTHING, I'LL BE IN RANGE FOR ANOTHER DAY OR SO.
MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU.
I AM THE DAUGHTER OF NOMI SUNRIDER.
I WON'T LEAVE THIS PLACE UNTIL I'M A JEDI.

CHAPTER THREE



WHEN VAR.
HELLO? ANYBODY HOME?
I'M LOOKING FOR ULIC...
...ULIC QEL-DROMA!
OR MAYBE JUST A WARM CUP OF STIM-TEA..

HMMM...I GUESS FINDING ULIC IS GOING TO BE TOUGHER THAN I THOUGHT.
ULIC! THAT MUST BE ULIC!
MAYBE IF I RUN FAST ENOUGH

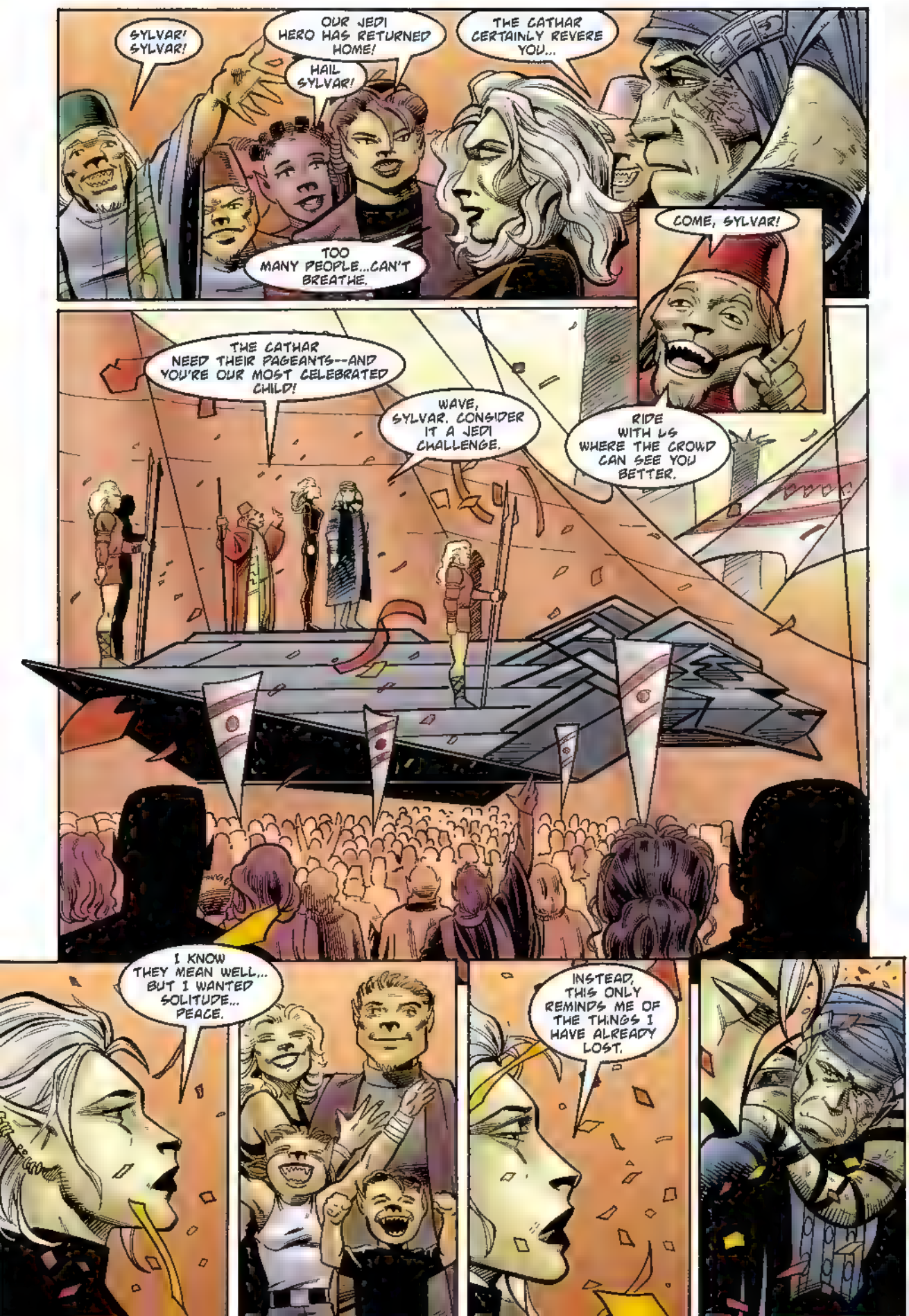
WHO ARE YOU?
NOMI!
EVEN THIS PLACE NOW HOLDS TOO MANY GHOSTS...
...I MUST BE GOING CRAZY.
ULIC, WAIT ULIC QEL-DROMA! I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR YOU.
NOMI WAS MY MOTHER...I'M VIMA, VIMA SUNRIDER.

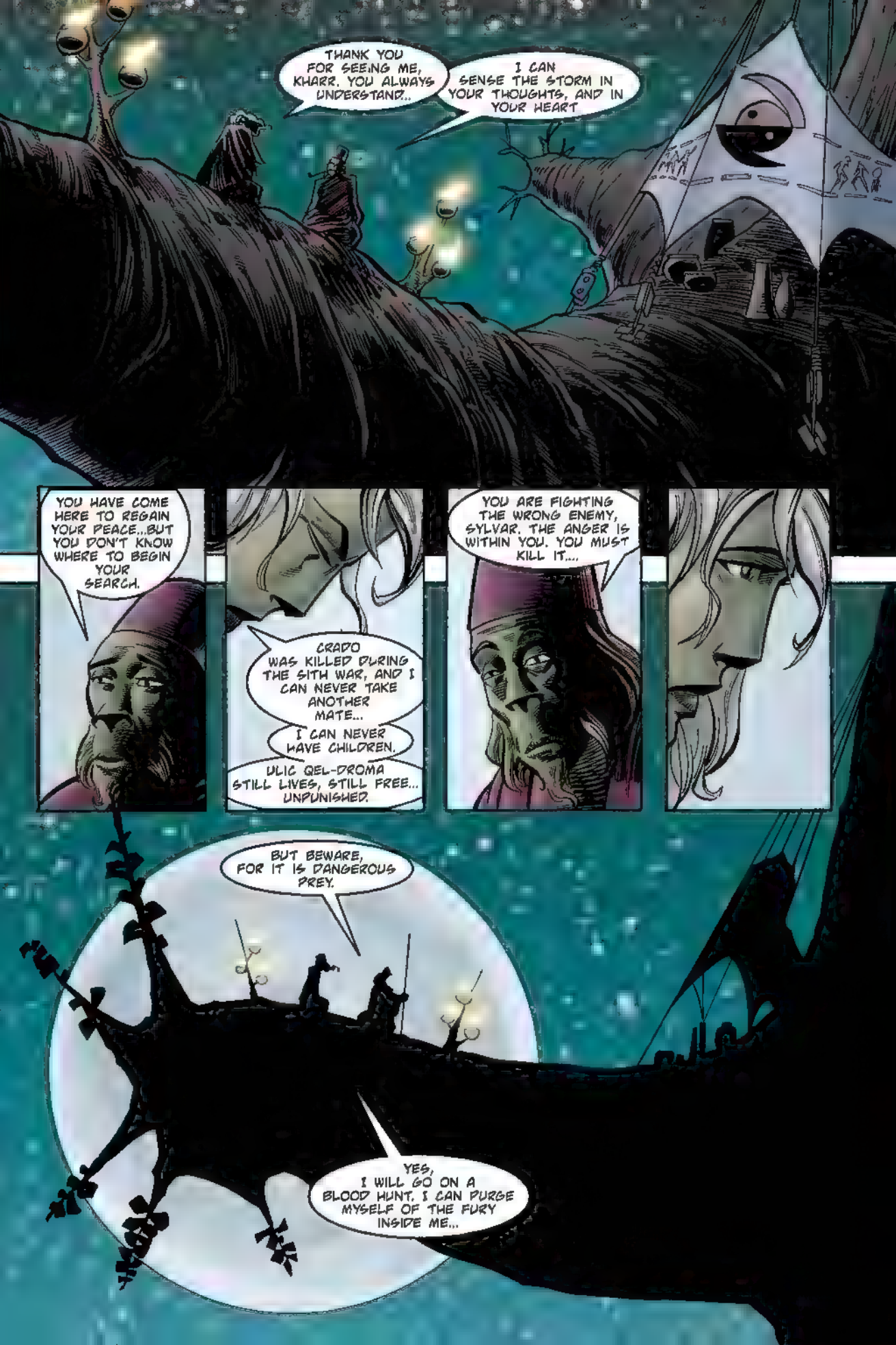
WHY HAVE YOU COME HERE?
WHY?
YOU CAN'T PUNISH ME ANYMORE THAN I ALREADY PUNISH MYSELF.
NO, ULIC-- PLEASE!
I WANT YOU TO TRAIN ME AS A JEDI!
TRAIN YOU? DON'T BE A STUPID LITTLE GIRL. DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHO I AM?
I CAN'T TRAIN ANYONE. I AM NO LONGER A JEDI.
I CAN'T EVEN FEEL THE FORCE.
I DIDN'T COME ALL THIS WAY JUST TO BE REMINDED OF YOUR MOTHER'S FACE.
GO HOME.

I THOUGHT YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO BE A GREAT JEDI!
YOU'RE NO HERO, ULIC! NO HERO AT ALL!
WHY WON'T THIS STUPID TRANSMITTER WORK?
HMMM... MAYBE IT'S THE... STORM.
C-CAN'T EVEN SEE THE FORTRESS ANYMORE...
SURE IS C-COLD HERE...

COME ON-- YOU'LL DIE OUT HERE IN THIS BLIZZARD.
WE'VE GOT TO GET TO SHELTER.
I CAN'T SENSE ANY-THING...I THINK IT'S THIS WAY.
NO-- OVER HERE. I CAN FEEL IT.
YOU'RE AS STUBBORN AS YOUR MOTHER
ALL RIGHT... WE'LL SURVIVE AT LEAST.
MAKE YOURSELF COMFORTABLE.
THIS STORM COULD LAST WEEKS.

THANK YOU FOR COMING WITH ME, TOTT DONEETA.
THIS IS YOUR HOME, SYLVAR. I ONLY HOPE YOU CAN FIND PEACE.


SYLVAR! SYLVAR!
OUR JEDI HERO HAS RETURNED HOME!
HAIL SYLVAR!
THE CATHAR CERTAINLY REVERE YOU...
TOO MANY PEOPLE...CAN'T BREATHE.
COME, SYLVAR!
THE CATHAR NEED THEIR PAGEANTS--AND YOU'RE OUR MOST CELEBRATED CHILD!
WAVE, SYLVAR. CONSIDER IT A JEDI CHALLENGE.
RIDE WITH US WHERE THE CROWD CAN SEE YOU BETTER.
I KNOW THEY MEAN WELL... BUT I WANTED SOLITUDE... PEACE.
INSTEAD, THIS ONLY REMINDS ME OF THE THINGS I HAVE ALREADY LOST.


THANK YOU FOR SEEING ME, KHARR. YOU ALWAYS UNDERSTAND...
I CAN SENSE THE STORM IN YOUR THOUGHTS, AND IN YOUR HEART
YOU HAVE COME HERE TO REGAIN YOUR PEACE...BUT YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE TO BEGIN YOUR SEARCH.
CRADO WAS KILLED DURING THE SITH WAR, AND I CAN NEVER TAKE ANOTHER MATE...
I CAN NEVER HAVE CHILDREN.
ULIC QEL-DROMA STILL LIVES, STILL FREE... UNPUNISHED.
YOU ARE FIGHTING THE WRONG ENEMY, SYLVAR. THE ANGER IS WITHIN YOU. YOU MUST KILL IT...
BUT BEWARE, FOR IT IS DANGEROUS PREY.
YES, I WILL GO ON A BLOOD HUNT. I CAN PURGE MYSELF OF THE FURY INSIDE ME...

SHOULDN'T THEY WAIT UNTIL YOUR STORY IS FINISHED BEFORE THEY CARVE YOUR EPIC INTO THE TREE?
TOTT, YOU KNOW HOW THE RAGE BURNS INSIDE OF ME...
I MUST GO OUT ON A BLOOD HUNT.
"IT IS A RITUAL AMONG MY PEOPLE. A CLEANSING.
"I THINK IT WILL SAVE ME."
WILL YOU GO WITH ME?
I WOULD BE HONORED

WHEN VAR,

NOMI DOESN'T KNOW YOU'RE HERE, DOES SHE?

MY MOTHER DOESN'T NOTICE WHETHER I'M THERE OR NOT.

SHE DOESN'T KNOW HOW BADLY I WANT TO BE A JEDI.

DO YOU REALIZE THE COST OF BEING A JEDI?

I HAVE WATCHED MY MASTER SLAIN, MURDERED MY OWN BROTHER, BETRAYED YOUR MOTHER...

...ALL OF THIS, ONLY TO BECOME BLINDED TO THE FORCE.

I NO LONGER ENJOY MY MEMORIES, VIMA.

I HAVE WANDERED TOO FAR, SEEN TOO MUCH...

I HAVE THE BLOOD OF ENOUGH CHILDREN ON MY HANDS...

WHY WOULD YOU WANT ANYTHING I CAN TEACH YOU?

BECAUSE YOU'RE...ULIC.

HOGGON'S SHIP.
AUTOPILOT... COME ON, ACTIVATE! I NEED TIME TO THINK.
PLEASE CHECK AUTOPILOT USER MANUAL.
ONE OF THESE DAYS I'VE GOT TO DO A MAJOR OVERHAUL OF THIS JUNKHEAP.
ALL SYSTEMS OPERATING AT PEAK PERFORMANCE.
I CAN'T BELIEVE I HAD ULIC QEL-DROMA ON MY OWN SHIP! WOW!
AND VIMA SUNRIDER!
UH-OH, NOMI SUNRIDER IS NOT GOING TO BE HAPPY ABOUT THIS...
BUT I HAVE TO TELL SOMEONE... MAYBE MASTER THON? OR TOTT DONEETA?
THE JEDI NEED THIS INFORMATION... AND I'M THE ONLY ON WHO CAN GIVE IT...
YES THE JEDI KNIGHTS NEED ME! THEY CAN SEND A WHOLE BATTALION OF JEDI KNIGHTS TO FIGHT ULIC.
I'VE GOT TO GET TO EXIS STATION. YES, I HAVE TO TALK TO NOMI SUNRIDER!

CATHAR.
RUN AS FAST AS YOU WISH, SYLVAR-- I'LL KEEP UP.
EXHILARATING, ISN'T IT?
SOON WE WILL REACH THE LANDS DEVASTATED BY THE KILTIK...
...AND THEN THE HUNT WILL BEGIN.
I HAVE NEVER SEEN SUCH DEVASTATION, NOT EVEN AFTER A HEAT STORM.
KILLING THESE CREATURES IS A MERCY TO MY PLANET,
AND PERHAPS IT WILL QUENCH THE FIRES WITHIN ME.

THE KILTIK SLEEP DURING THE HEAT OF THE DAY...

...AT NIGHT THEY SWARM OUT...AND FEED.

NOT THIS NIGHT.

HOW DEEP WILL WE HAVE TO GO?

DON'T WORRY-- THEY'LL FIND US.

I HEAR SOMETHING...

FFFZZZZZSSHH

IT'S JUST A GUARD.
EASY PICKINGS.
I'M GOING TO THE QUEEN CHAMBER.
THAT'S WHERE THE REAL TROPHY WAITS.

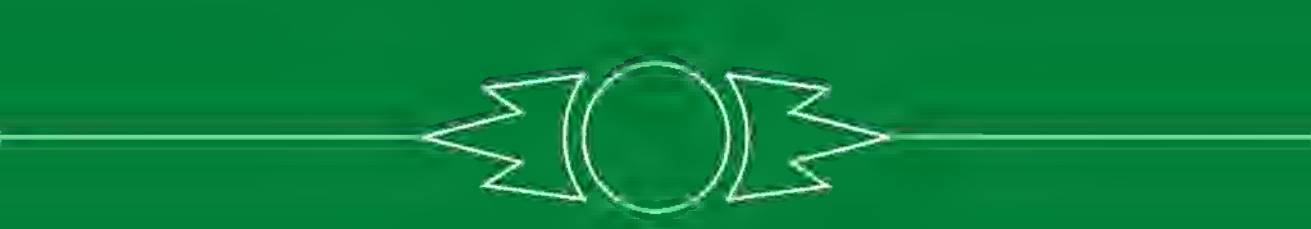
I CAN KILL THEM ALL!
YyAAAAHRRR!

SYLVAR--
STOP!
GRRRRRRRRRRHHH!
YOU'VE FINISHED.
LOOK WHAT YOU HAVE DONE.

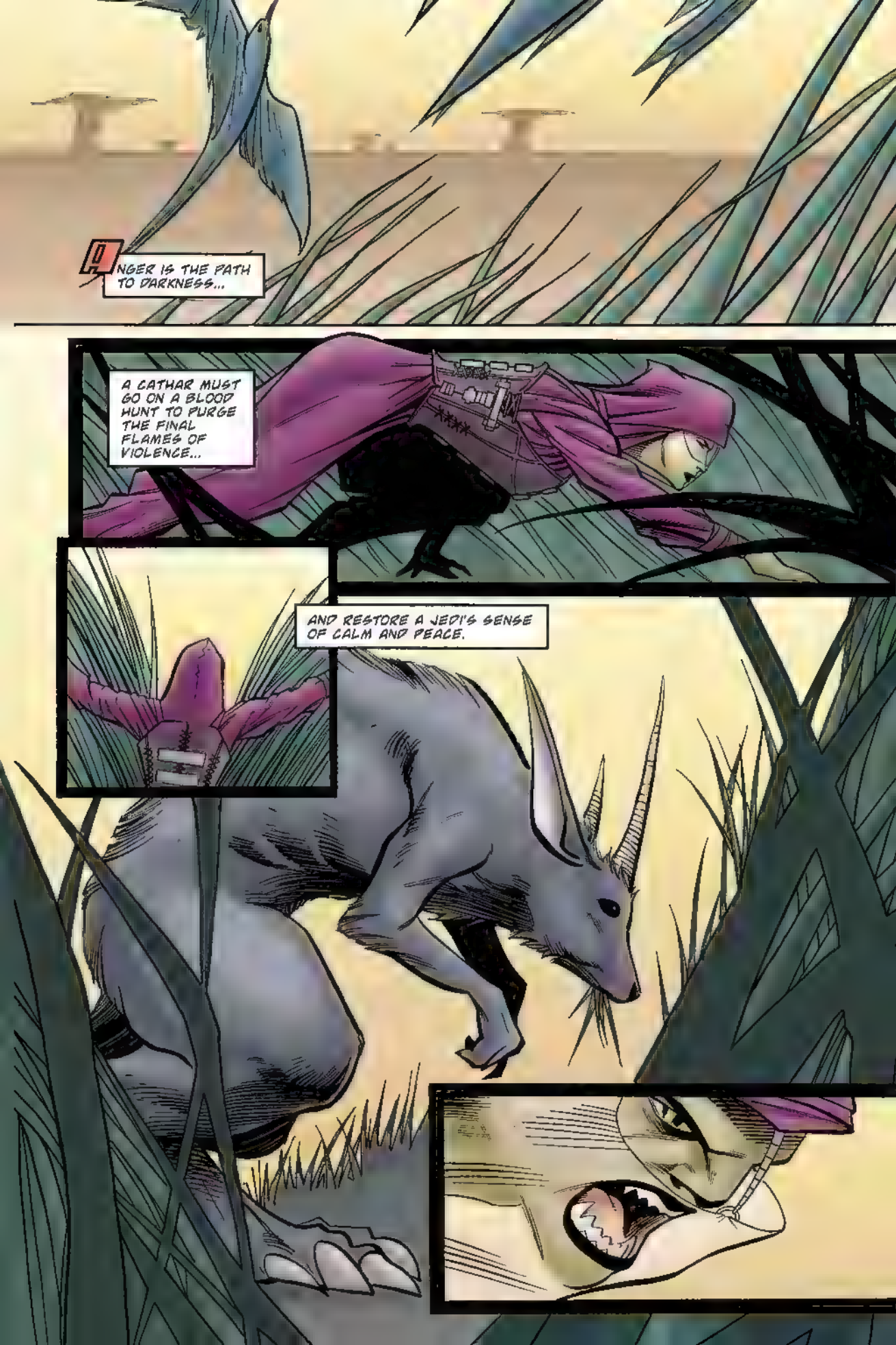
THIS IS NOT A TROPHY FOR YOUR HUNT.
"YOU DIDN'T GET RID OF YOUR ANGER, SYLVAR... YOU GAVE IN TO IT."
YOU'RE WALKING THE PATH OF ANGER... AND YOU KNOW WHERE THAT WILL LEAD.
YOU HAVE TO WORK THIS OUT YOURSELF, SYLVAR...
...REMEMBER LLIC

EXIS STATION.
INCOMING SCRAMBLED MESSAGE
PUT IT THROUGH...MAYBE IT'S NEWS ABOUT VIMA
HELLO MOTHER--I'M SAFE, AND I HAVE GREAT NEWS!
I'M GOING TO BE TRAINED AS A JEDI. I'LL BE LEARNING EVERY-THING I CAN. YOU'LL BE PROUD OF ME.
ULIC QEL-DROMA IS GOING TO TEACH ME. DON'T WORRY--I'LL BE FINE.
A MISTER HOGGON TO SEE YOU, COUNCILOR. HE SAYS IT'S URGENT.
TELL HIM TO GO AWAY!
VIMA! OH, VIMA--WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

CHAPTER FOUR



CATHAR...THE VAST VELDT...
...A PLACE FOR SOLITUDE....
...A PLACE TO HUNT...
...A PLACE TO FORGET THE PAST...
PREVIOUS COMPANIONS.
PREVIOUS VICTORIES.

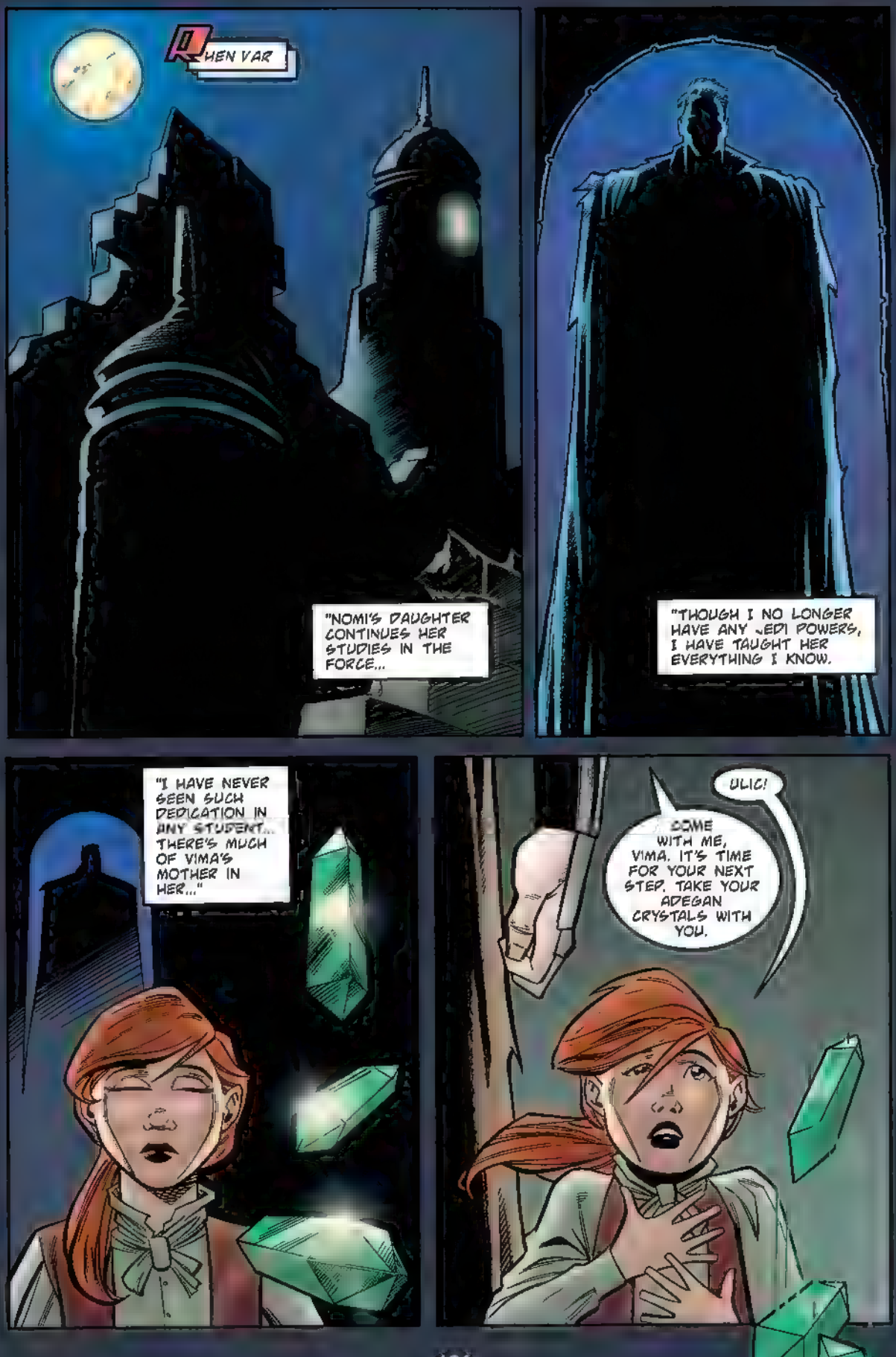

ANGER IS THE PATH TO DARKNESS...
A CATHAR MUST GO ON A BLOOD HUNT TO PURGE THE FINAL FLAMES OF VIOLENCE...
AND RESTORE A JEDI'S SENSE OF CALM AND PEACE.

RRRAHHHHHHH!!
EEEYONK?!

IT'S DONE...BUT I...I DON'T FEEL PURGED.
THIS BLOOD HASN'T CLEANSED ME...
NOT AT ALL...

SO MANY STARS... SO MANY PEOPLE IN THE REPUBLIC.
BUT I'M ALL ALONE HERE WITH MY ANGER AND MY GRIEF.
SNKK!
SPYING ON ME! STALKING ME!

WHO ARE YOU? SPEAK THE NAME OF YOUR CLAN SO THEIR GHOSTS CAN GUIDE YOU INTO DEATH!
UUUNGHHH!
WAIT! WAIT, SYLVAR! I'M A SCOUT, COME TO FIND YOU.
I HAVE A MESSAGE, AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE--
NOMI SUNRIDER'S DAUGHTER IS MISSING...
YOU'LL LIVE ANOTHER DAY.
I MUST GO SEE NOMI SUNRIDER...


QHEN VAR
"NOMI'S DAUGHTER CONTINUES HER STUDIES IN THE FORCE...
"THOUGH I NO LONGER HAVE ANY JEDI POWERS, I HAVE TAUGHT HER EVERYTHING I KNOW.
"I HAVE NEVER SEEN SUCH DEDICATION IN ANY STUDENT... THERE'S MUCH OF VIMA'S MOTHER IN HER..."
ULIC!
COME WITH ME, VIMA. IT'S TIME FOR YOUR NEXT STEP. TAKE YOUR ADEGAN CRYSTALS WITH YOU.

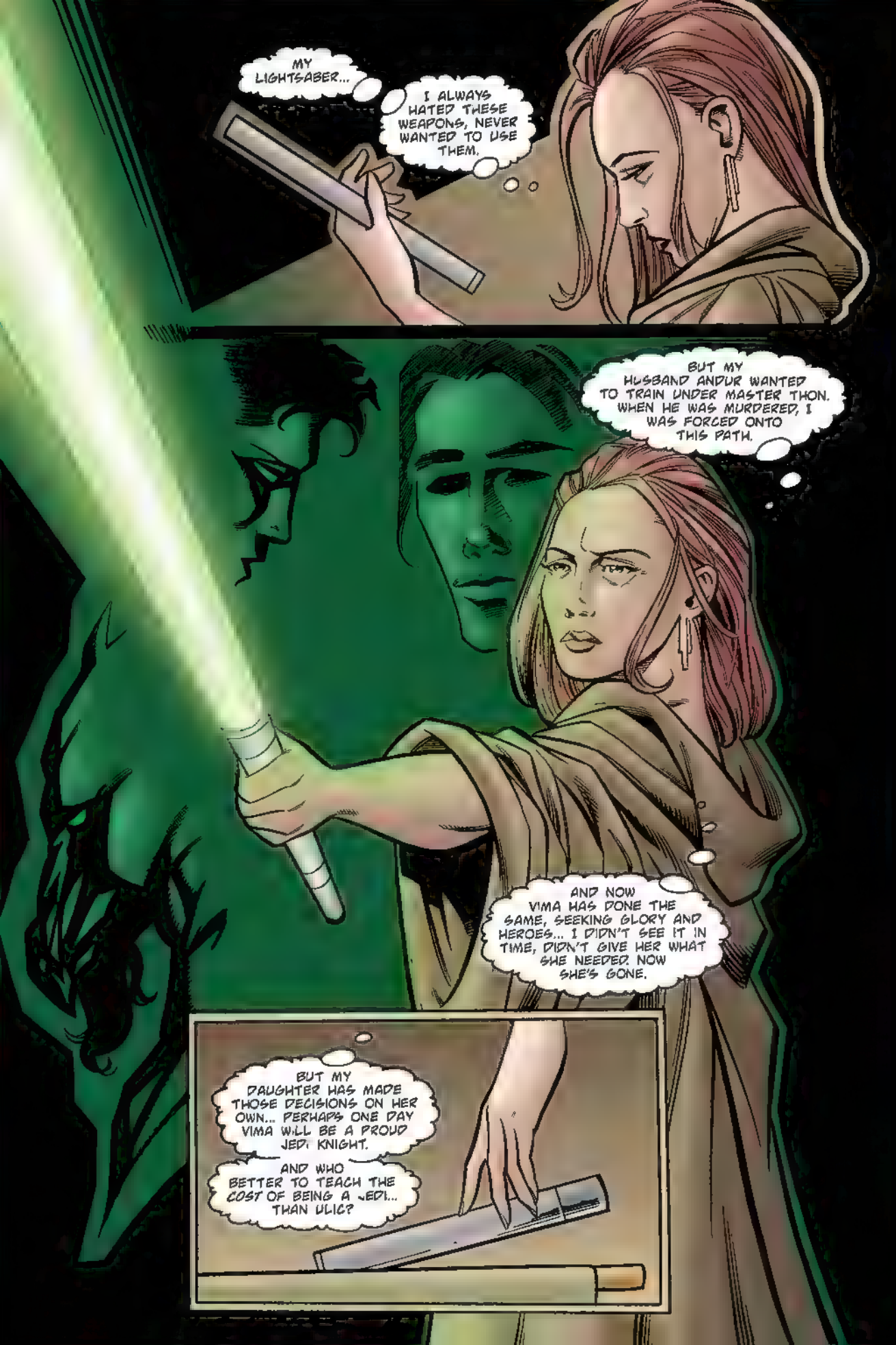
EVERY JEDI MUST HAVE THE PROPER WEAPON.
THESE CRYSTALS WERE MY FATHER'S. HE WAS GOING TO BUILD HIS OWN LIGHT-SABER...
HE WAS KILLED BEFORE HE GOT THE CHANCE.
IT WORKS! MY VERY OWN LIGHTSABER! JUST LIKE A REAL JEDI KNIGHT!
I HAVE NOT USED MY OWN... FOR SOME TIME.
BUT IT STILL FUNCTIONS... LIKE NEW.

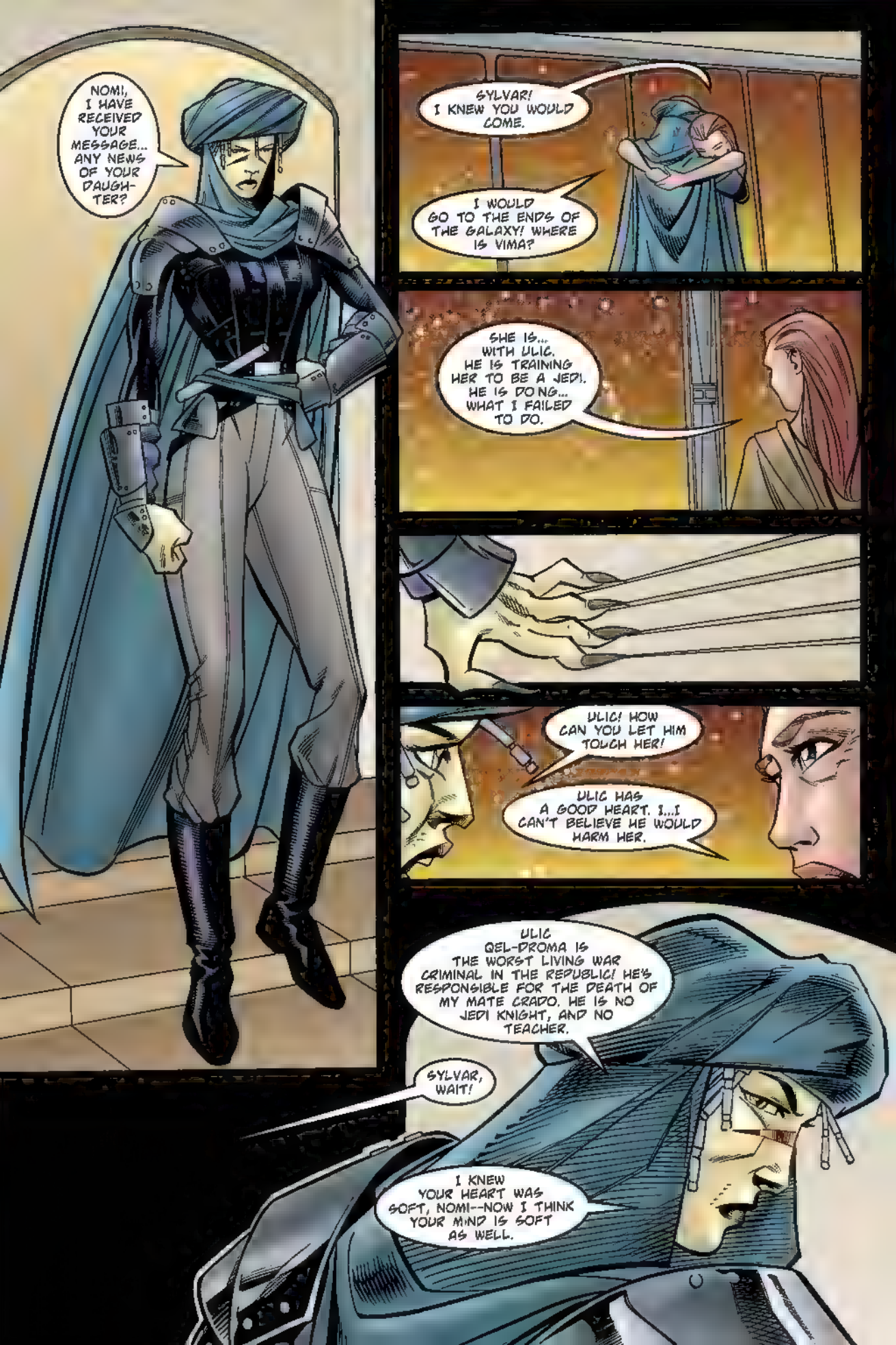
SPAR WITH ME, ULIC! TEACH ME HOW TO FIGHT WITH A LIGHTSABER.
FFF
SHH
I CAN STILL FEEL THE BLADE, THOUGH I CAN'T FEEL THE FORCE.
HAVE A CARE, AND NEVER LET YOUR ATTENTION FALTER
THE LIGHTSABER IS A DANGEROUS WEAPON.
YES, I REMEMBER THESE DAYS...

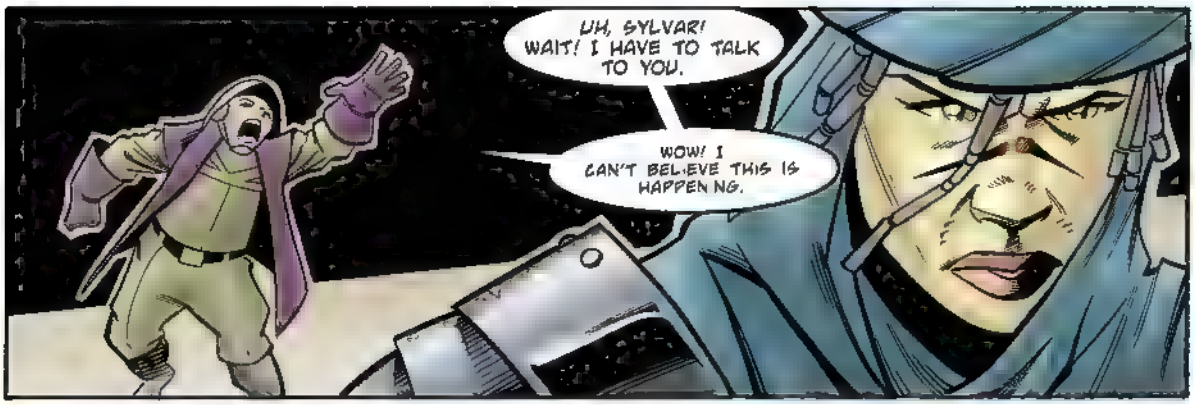
EXIS STATION
NOW YOU JUST LEAVE NOMI SUNRIDER ALONE.
WAIT! WAIT!
PEOPLE CAN'T JUST WALK UP AND TALK TO A GREAT JEDI KNIGHT AND ADMINIS-TRATOR.
BUT I HAVE IMPORTANT INFORMATION! I KNOW WHERE TO FIND ULIC QEL-DROMA!
SURE, SURE YOU DO.
YES, HE'S ON RHEN VAR! A FROZEN WORLD...
ALL RIGHT, NOW WHAT? IF NOMI SUNRIDER DOESN'T WANT TO HEAR IT, WHAT OTHER JEDI CAN I TELL?
WHO ELSE WANTS TO FIND ULIC BADLY ENOUGH...

YOU ARE A GREAT STUDENT, VIMA... BETTER THAN I DESERVE. BUT I JUST CAN'T TEACH YOU ANYMORE.
I AM NOT A JEDI. NOT ANYMORE.
WHAT? JUST BECAUSE YOU NO LONGER ASSOCIATE WITH OTHER PEOPLE, DOES THAT MEAN THAT YOU ARE NO LONGER HUMAN?

ULIC, YOU'RE JUST MAKING EXCUSES.
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND...
I'M LIKE AN ARTIST WHO'S BEEN BLINDED. I CAN NO LONGER SEE TO PAINT.
THEN BECOME A SCULPTOR WITH YOUR TALENT. FEEL YOUR WAY IF YOU CAN NO LONGER SEE!
IT'S ALL SO EASY FOR YOU, ISN'T IT?
ALL RIGHT, WE'LL TRY SCULPTURE, THEN.

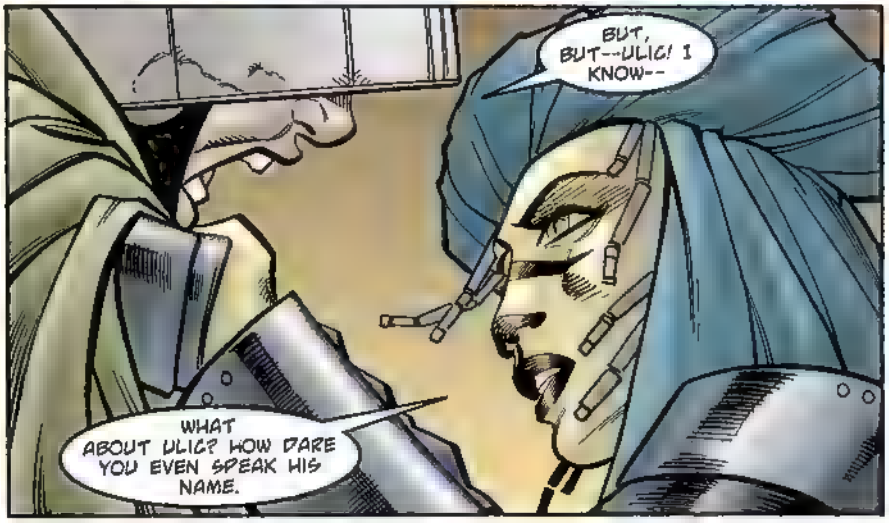

MY LIGHTSABER...
I ALWAYS HATED THESE WEAPONS, NEVER WANTED TO USE THEM.
BUT MY HUSBAND ANDUR WANTED TO TRAIN UNDER MASTER THON. WHEN HE WAS MURDERED, I WAS FORCED ONTO THIS PATH.
AND NOW VIMA HAS DONE THE SAME, SEEKING GLORY AND HEROES... I DIDN'T SEE IT IN TIME, DIDN'T GIVE HER WHAT SHE NEEDED. NOW SHE'S GONE.
BUT MY DAUGHTER HAS MADE THOSE DECISIONS ON HER OWN... PERHAPS ONE DAY VIMA WILL BE A PROUD JEDI KNIGHT.
AND WHO BETTER TO TEACH THE COST OF BEING A JEDI... THAN ULIC?

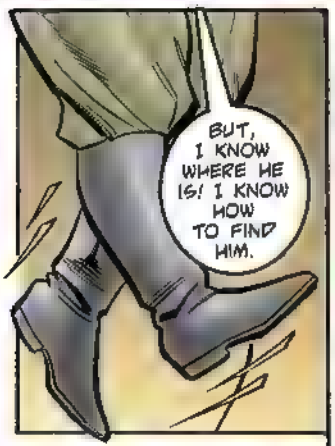

NOMI, I HAVE RECEIVED YOUR MESSAGE... ANY NEWS OF YOUR DAUGHTER?
SYLVAR! I KNEW YOU WOULD COME.
I WOULD GO TO THE ENDS OF THE GALAXY! WHERE IS VIMA?
SHE IS... WITH ULIC. HE IS TRAINING HER TO BE A JEDI. HE IS DOING... WHAT I FAILED TO DO.
ULIC! HOW CAN YOU LET HIM TOUCH HER!
ULIC HAS A GOOD HEART. I...I CAN'T BELIEVE HE WOULD HARM HER.
ULIC QEL-DROMA IS THE WORST LIVING WAR CRIMINAL IN THE REPUBLIC! HE'S RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATH OF MY MATE CRADO. HE IS NO JEDI KNIGHT, AND NO TEACHER.
SYLVAR, WAIT!
I KNEW YOUR HEART WAS SOFT, NOMI--NOW I THINK YOUR MIND IS SOFT AS WELL.

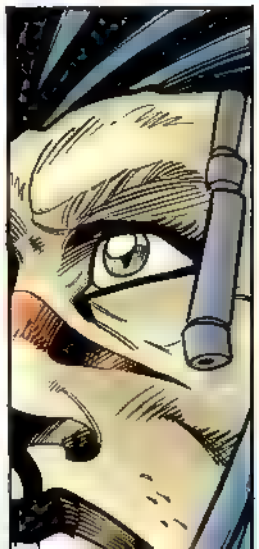

UH, SYLVAR! WAIT! I HAVE TO TALK TO YOU.
WOW! I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS IS HAPPENING.

NOW IS NOT A GOOD TIME TO TALK... UNLESS YOU WANT TO LOSE YOUR EYES.

...OR MORE.


BUT, BUT--ULIC! I KNOW--
WHAT ABOUT ULIC? HOW DARE YOU EVEN SPEAK HIS NAME.


BUT, I KNOW WHERE HE IS! I KNOW HOW TO FIND HIM.



JUST COME WITH ME, SYLVAR. I CAN TAKE YOU THERE MYSELF. THIS WAY, TO MY SHIP!

RHEN VAR
THE SCAFFOLDING SHOULD BE STURDY ENOUGH...
I HOPE...
FORM THE IMAGE IN YOUR MIND, PICTURE WHAT YOU WISH TO CREATE...
...AND LET THE FORCE FLOW.
IT'S THERE IN MY MIND. LET'S GET STARTED! THE ICE IS WAITING.
SPZZZ
SSSSZZZ
SSSZZ

ARCA'S IMAGE IS BURNED IN MY BRAIN. I CAN HONOR HIM THIS WAY.
I CAN STILL ACCOMPLISH GOOD WORK WITH MY LIGHTSABER...
...EVEN WITHOUT THE FORCE.
THIS IS FOR YOU, MASTER ARCA...

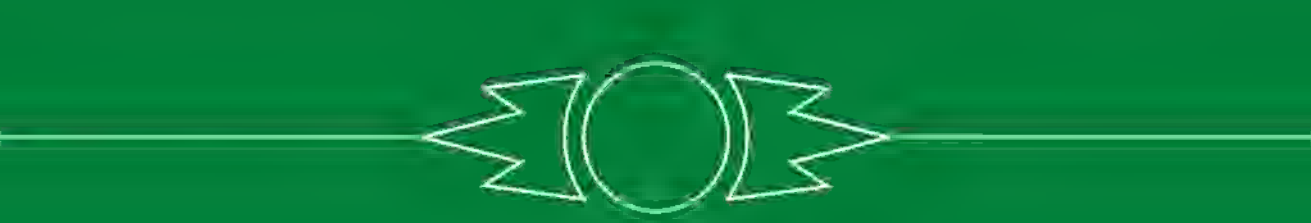
I NEVER KNEW MY FATHER...ALL I'VE EVER SEEN IS MY MOTHER'S HOLOGRAM. BUT THIS SEEMS RIGHT, SOMEHOW.
IT'S ALMOST AS IF I CAN FEEL HIS PRESENCE, HIS MEMORY LARGER THAN ANY SCULPTURE I CAN EVER MAKE.

GOOD WORK, VIMA. WE HAVE HONORED THEM.
ULIC, I THINK YOU'VE PROVEN THAT YOU HAVE THE HEART OF A JEDI, NO MATTER WHAT POWERS YOU HAVE LEFT.
YOU HAVE TRAINED ME, YOUR STUDENT, JUST AS IF YOU WERE A JEDI MASTER! WHAT MORE COULD ANYBODY ASK?
I WISH I COULD BELIEVE THAT WAS TRUE, VIMA...OH HOW I WISH...

COME ON, KEEP PACKING. WE NEED TO GET BACK TO CORUSCANT!
THE JEDI CONVOCATION IS OVER, AND THE SOLAR MINERS WANT THEIR STATION BACK. PLENTY OF WORK TO DO AROUND HERE.
WITH ALL OF MY WORK FOR THE REPUBLIC, ALL OF THE POLITICS...I HAVE FORGOTTEN MY OWN DAUGHTER.
I NEGLECTED VIMA, SHORT-CHANGED HER JEDI TRAINING.
I SPENT MORE TIME ATTENDING TO MATTERS OF STATE THAN MY OWN FAMILY.
NO WONDER SHE RAN AWAY.

TIME TO BE ABOUT THE BUSINESS I WAS TRAINED TO DO.
NO MORE MEETINGS, NO MORE NEGOTIATIONS...
HEY!
VIMA IS ALL I HAVE LEFT. THE REPUBLIC CAN DO WITHOUT ME FOR A TIME.
I AM A JEDI KNIGHT. TRAINING VIMA IS MY JOB.
IF ONLY I CAN GET THERE IN TIME... BEFORE LLIC CAUSES TOO MUCH DAMAGE.

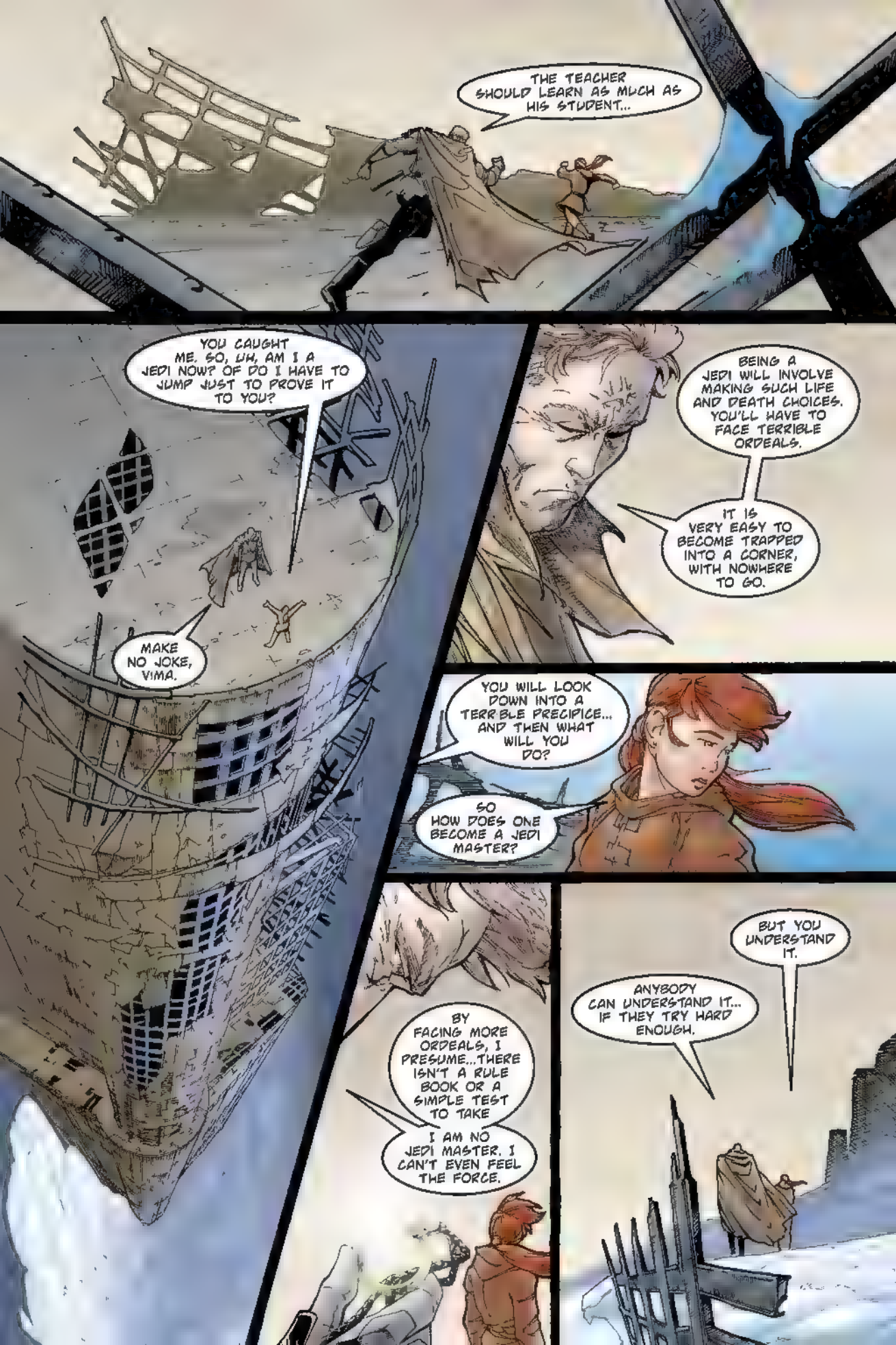
CHAPTER FIVE

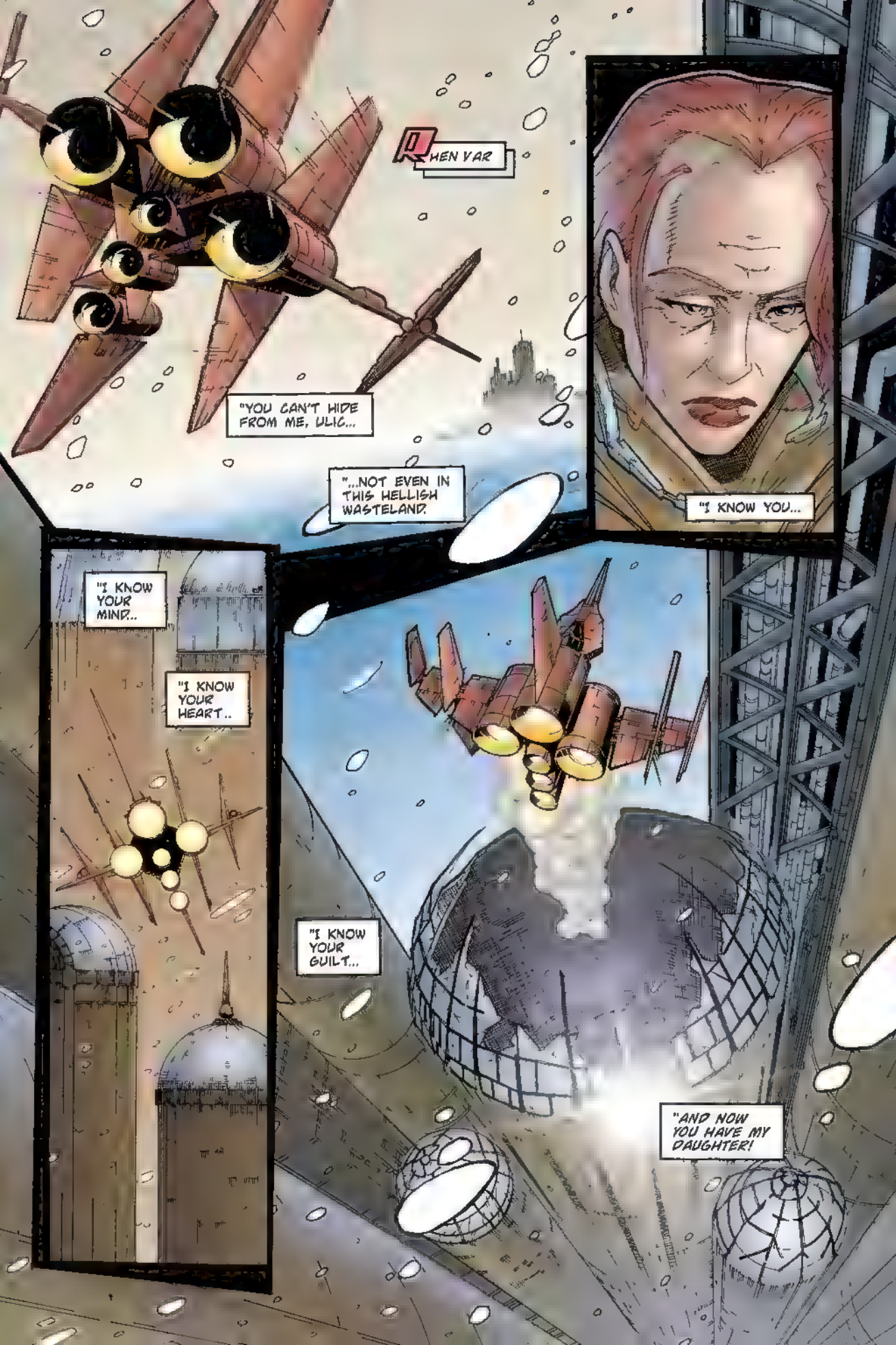


HOLD!
KKFFEZZSHH
WHY, ULIC?
HAD ENOUGH?
TOO MUCH FOR YOU?
YOU'RE GETTING OVER-CONFIDENT, VIMA.

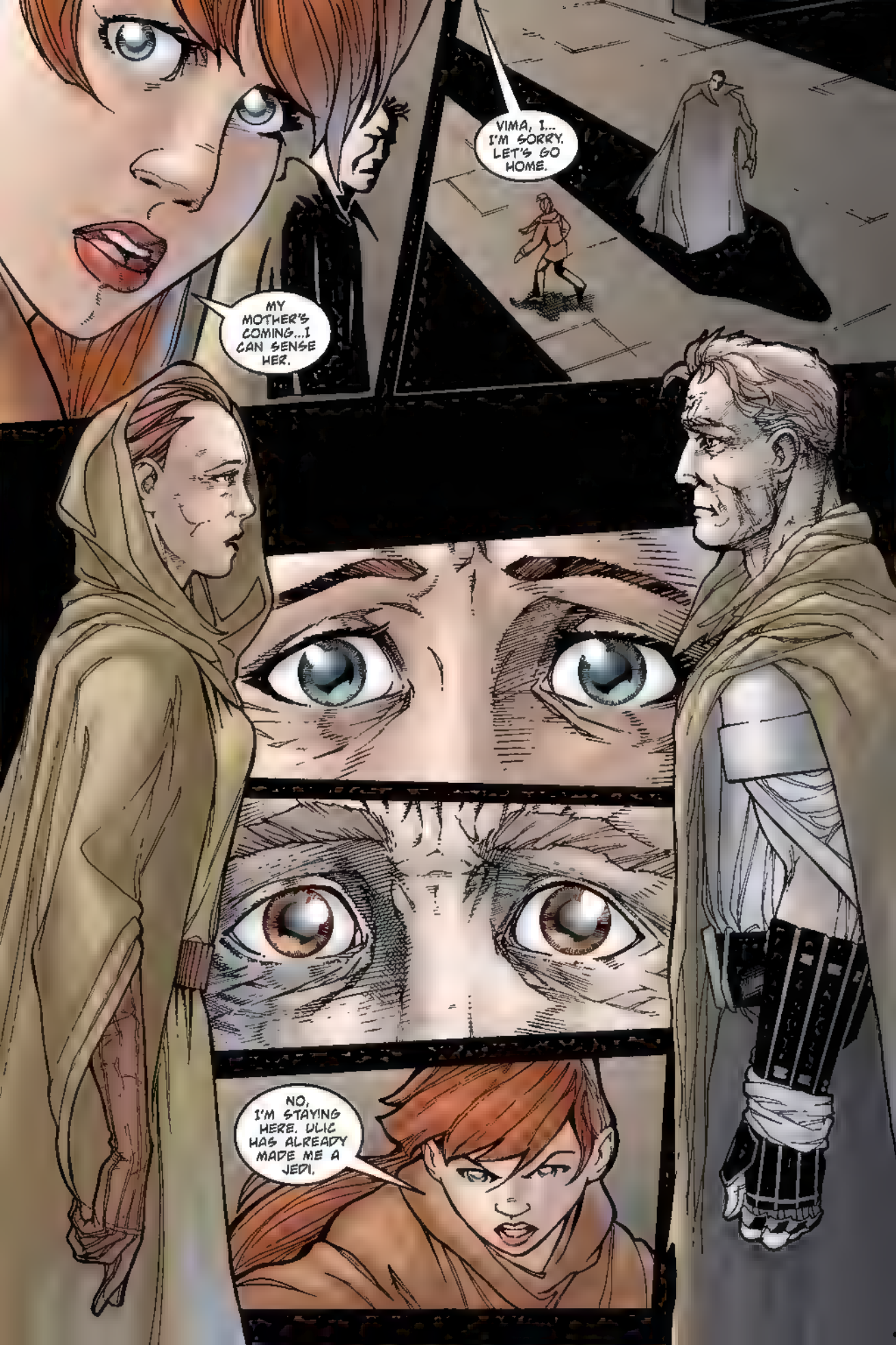
YOUR PROGRESS IS EXCELLENT, BUT YOU'VE LET YOUR GUARD DOWN SEVERAL TIMES--
HAH! NOW, WHO'S LETTING HIS GUARD DOWN?
NO!
HAVE A CARE, VIMA...

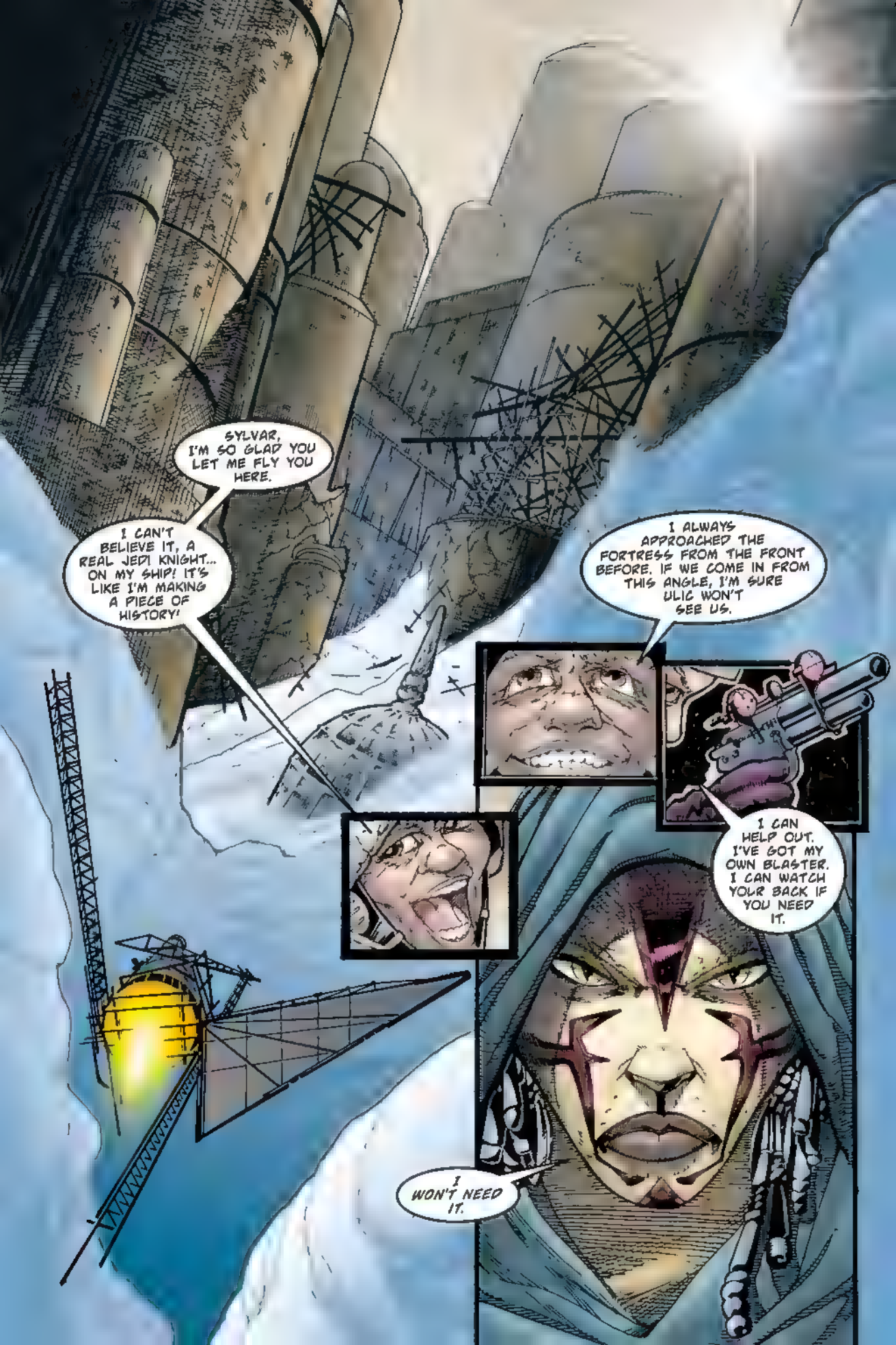
OOOOH, QUICK TEMPER!
BETTER NOT GET YOU ANGRY, I MIGHT START ANOTHER GALACTIC WAR!
CAREFUL, ULIC! REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED LAST TIME YOU GOT TOO CLOSE TO THE DARK SIDE.
SPLOKK!
I SURE TAUGHT YOU A LESSON, DIDN'T I?


THE TEACHER SHOULD LEARN AS MUCH AS HIS STUDENT...
YOU CAUGHT ME. SO, UH, AM I A JEDI NOW? OR DO I HAVE TO JUMP JUST TO PROVE IT TO YOU?
MAKE NO JOKE, VIMA.
BEING A JEDI WILL INVOLVE MAKING SUCH LIFE AND DEATH CHOICES. YOU'LL HAVE TO FACE TERRIBLE ORDEALS.
IT IS VERY EASY TO BECOME TRAPPED INTO A CORNER, WITH NOWHERE TO GO.
YOU WILL LOOK DOWN INTO A TERRIBLE PRECIPICE... AND THEN WHAT WILL YOU DO?
SO HOW DOES ONE BECOME A JEDI MASTER?
BY FACING MORE ORDEALS, I PRESUME...THERE ISN'T A RULE BOOK OR A SIMPLE TEST TO TAKE
I AM NO JEDI MASTER. I CAN'T EVEN FEEL THE FORCE.
BUT YOU UNDERSTAND IT.
ANYBODY CAN UNDERSTAND IT... IF THEY TRY HARD ENOUGH.


RHEN VAR
"YOU CAN'T HIDE FROM ME, ULIC...
"...NOT EVEN IN THIS HELLISH WASTELAND.
"I KNOW YOU...
"I KNOW YOUR MIND..
"I KNOW YOUR HEART..
"I KNOW YOUR GUILT...
"AND NOW YOU HAVE MY DAUGHTER!

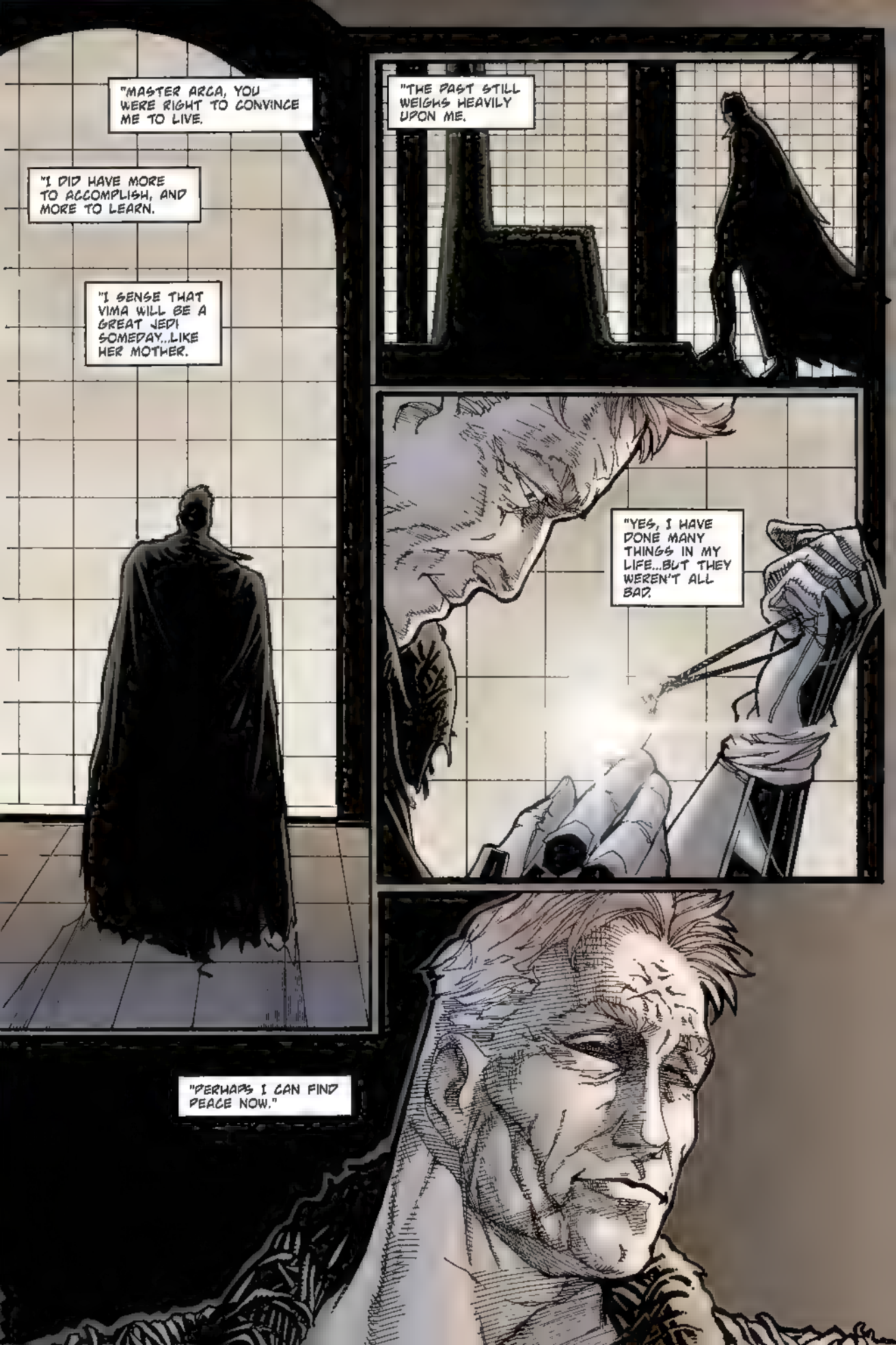
"THIS PLACE REMINDS ME OF YOU, ULIC.
"ISOLATED...FROZEN... CRUMBLING.
"ONCE YOU HAD A GLORIOUS PAST...AND NOW YOU ARE JUST COLD.
"VIMA ..VIMA...
"OF ALL THE TEACHERS IN THE GALAXY, WHY WOULD YOU PICK HIM...HIM!
"HOW COULD I FAIL YOU SO BADLY?
"I SHOULD HAVE PAID MORE ATTENTION...
"SHOULD HAVE TRAINED YOU...MY DAUGHTER..."


VIMA, I... I'M SORRY. LET'S GO HOME.
MY MOTHER'S COMING...I CAN SENSE HER.
NO, I'M STAYING HERE. ULIC HAS ALREADY MADE ME A JEDI.


SYLVAR, I'M SO GLAD YOU LET ME FLY YOU HERE.
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT, A REAL JEDI KNIGHT... ON MY SHIP! IT'S LIKE I'M MAKING A PIECE OF HISTORY!
I ALWAYS APPROACHED THE FORTRESS FROM THE FRONT BEFORE. IF WE COME IN FROM THIS ANGLE, I'M SURE ULIC WON'T SEE US.
I CAN HELP OUT. I'VE GOT MY OWN BLASTER. I CAN WATCH YOUR BACK IF YOU NEED IT.
I WON'T NEED IT.

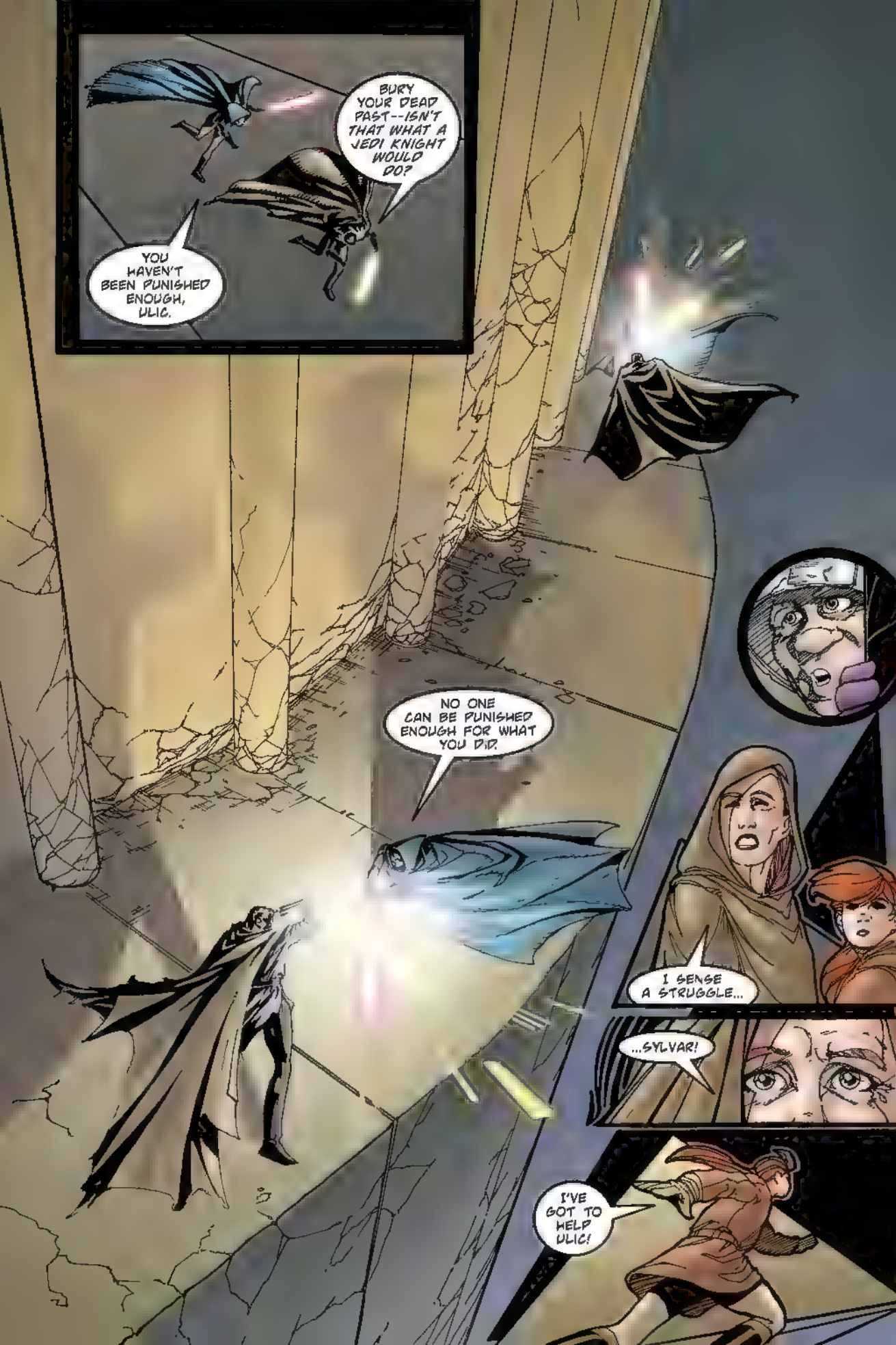
ULIC HAS TAUGHT ME SO MUCH, MOTHER. I UNDERSTAND THE FORCE NOW.
HE'S NOT AT ALL THE KIND OF MAN YOU TOLD ME HE WAS...AND YOU KNOW IT.
I DIDN'T ASK HER TO COME HERE, NOMI. I TAUGHT HER WHAT I COULD..
SHE IS YOUR DAUGHTER... NOT MINE.
IF YOU'RE READY TO TEACH HER YOURSELF, SHE'S WELCOME TO GO. YOU CAN COMPLETE HER TRAINING.
I GUESS THIS IS ONE OF THOSE PRECIPICE SITUATIONS YOU WARNED ME ABOUT, RIGHT, ULIC? WELL, THEN I'LL HAVE TO FIND ANOTHER SOLUTION.
MOTHER, ULIC DIDN'T WANT TO TEACH ME, BUT HE SAVED ME.
I COULD HAVE DIED IN A BLIZZARD, BUT HE SAVED ME.
YOU KNOW I HAVE POTENTIAL TO BE A JEDI, AND ULIC HAS BROUGHT IT OUT.
LET ME SHOW YOU WHAT WE'VE DONE...WHAT I'VE LEARNED. GIVE ME A CHANCE... PLEASE!
YES, VIMA--IT'S WHAT I ALWAYS SHOULD HAVE DONE. I'LL GIVE YOU A CHANCE.

YOU AND ULIC...DID THIS?
YEAH, BUT IT'S STARTNG TO MELT ALREADY.
I TRIED TO MAKE THE FACE LOOK LIKE MY FATHER'S.
OH, HERE'S THE HOLOGRAM I, UH, BORROWED FROM YOUR OFFICE.
ANDUR..


"MASTER ARCA, YOU WERE RIGHT TO CONVINCE ME TO LIVE.
"I DID HAVE MORE TO ACCOMPLISH, AND MORE TO LEARN.
"I SENSE THAT VIMA WILL BE A GREAT JEDI SOMEDAY...LIKE HER MOTHER.
"THE PAST STILL WEIGHS HEAVILY UPON ME.
"YES, I HAVE DONE MANY THINGS IN MY LIFE...BUT THEY WEREN'T ALL BAD.
"PERHAPS I CAN FIND PEACE NOW."

ULIC QEL-DROMA! I HAVE SEARCHED FOR YOU ACROSS THE GALAXY.
EVEN IN A PLACE AS COLD AS THIS, YOUR FESTERING PRESENCE IS LIKE A BEACON TO ME. YOUR RUNNING AND HIDING IS FINISHED NOW.
JUSTICE IS MINE!
JUSTICE? WHAT IS JUSTICE?
YOU MUST DIE, ULIC--FOR YOUR CRIMES AGAINST THE REPUBLIC.
...FOR ALL THE BLOOD ON YOUR HANDS, FOR YOUR ALLIANCE WITH THE EVIL EXAR KUN.
--AND ESPECIALLY FOR THE DEATH OF MY MATE CRADO!
YOU KNOW WHAT KIND OF PERSON CRADO WAS--DON'T BLAME ME FOR HIS CHOICES.
YOU SHAPED HIM AS MUCH AS I DID. NONE OF US IS INNOCENT.
I'VE HAD TO OVERCOME MY OWN GUILT--CAN YOU OVERCOME YOURS?

YOU HAVE TO DO MORE THAN JUST BLOCK MY BLOWS, ULIC.
IT'S YOU OR ME.
YOU'LL HAVE TO KILL ME, IF YOU MEAN TO LIVE OUT THIS DAY
WHY, SYLVAR? WHY CAN'T YOU MOVE ON?


BURY YOUR DEAD PAST--ISN'T THAT WHAT A JEDI KNIGHT WOULD DO?
YOU HAVEN'T BEEN PUNISHED ENOUGH, ULIC.
NO ONE CAN BE PUNISHED ENOUGH FOR WHAT YOU DID.
I SENSE A STRUGGLE...
...SYLVAR!
I'VE GOT TO HELP ULIC!

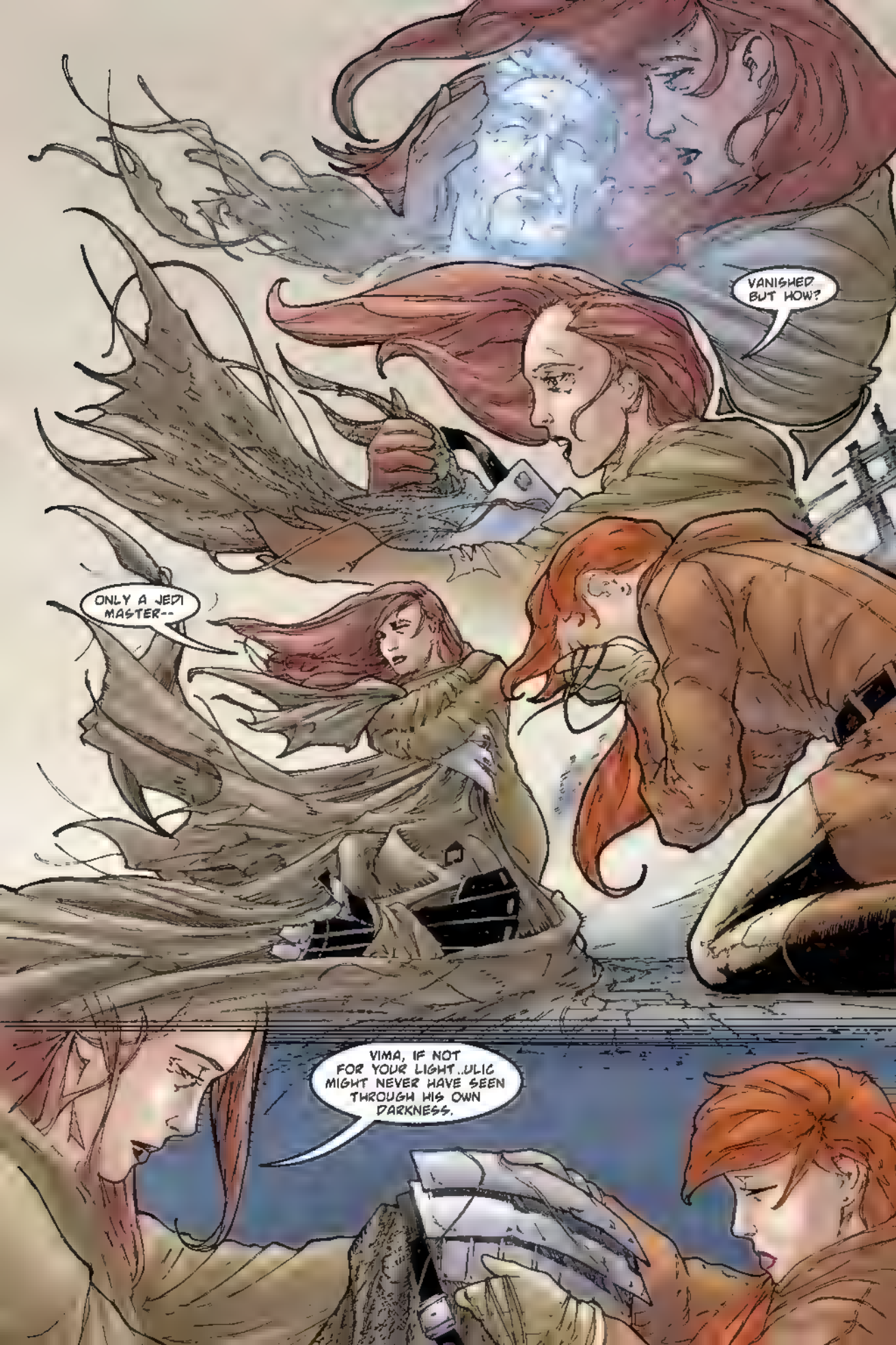
YOUR MATE MADE HIS OWN DECISIONS, SYLVAR...
AND HE PAID FOR HIS ACTIONS.
YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO LOST SOMEONE IN THAT WAR.
YEAH! NOW SHE'S GONG TO GET HIM!
I CANNOT CHANGE THE PAST. I MEANT TO DO GOOD.
BUT THE DARK SIDE IS SLIPPERY, AS YOU YOURSELF SHOULD KNOW!
I TRIED TO HIDE. I TRIED TO DIE. AND FINALLY, I TRIED TO ATONE. YOU ARE NOT MY JUDGE, SYLVAR.
YOU ARE SIMPLY A PAWN OF YOUR OWN EMOTIONS.
I WILL NOT FIGHT YOU.

DAMN YOU, ULIC!
DAMN YOU!
AFTER ALL THIS TIME OF HATING...
OF ALL THE PEOPLE TO FREE ME FROM MY ANGER...IT WAS YOU.

WHAT?!
ULIC!
KKKZZOT!
NOOOOO...
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! I JUST KILLED ULIC QEL-DROMA!

THE WORST DARK JEDI CRIMINAL IN HISTORY-- AND I SHOT HIM!
I CAN'T WAIT TO TELL EVERY-BODY AT THE CANTINA!
HOGGON THE GREAT! HISTORY WILL--
IF NOT FOR THE MAN YOU JUST KILLED, I'D BE TEARING YOUR THROAT OUT RIGHT NOW.
I GUESS I'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND JEDI.

SO MUCH WASTED TIME...WITH YOU...WITH VIMA..
NOMI, FORGIVE..
REST EASY, ULIC. I'VE ALREADY DONE THAT.
VIMA! REMEMBER... POSSIBILITIES.
TAKE THIS, JEDI...
JEDI?


VANISHED BUT HOW?
ONLY A JEDI MASTER--
VIMA, IF NOT FOR YOUR LIGHT, ULIC MIGHT NEVER HAVE SEEN THROUGH HIS OWN DARKNESS.

BUT...BUT ULIC WAS BLINDED TO THE FORCE. HE HAD NO POWERS. HE HAD LOST EVERYTHING.
HOW COULD HE STILL HAVE BEEN A JEDI... MUCH LESS A JEDI MASTER?
ULIC MAY NOT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO TOUCH THE FORCE, BUT HE UNDERSTOOD IT MORE THAN ANY OF US...
HE HAD THE *HEART* OF A JEDI...
END

A Word About the Omnibus Collections

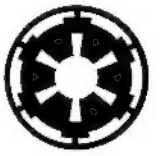
Dark Horse Comics' *Star Wars* Omnibus Collections were created as a way to showcase actual novel-length stories or series, and to provide homes for "orphaned" series, single-issue stories, and short stories which would otherwise never be collected, or which might fall out of print.

STAR WARS GRAPHIC NOVEL TIMELINE (IN YEARS)

Tales of the Jedi—5,000–3,986 BSW4
Knights of the Old Republic—3,964 BSW4
Jedi vs. Sith—1,000 BSW4
Jedi Council: Acts of War—33 BSW4
Prelude to Rebellion—33 BSW4
Darth Maul—33 BSW4
Episode I: The Phantom Menace—32 BSW4
Outlander—32 BSW4
Emissaries to Malastare—32 BSW4
Jango Fett: Open Seasons—32 BSW4
Twilight—31 BSW4
Bounty Hunters—31 BSW4
The Hunt for Aurra Sing—30 BSW4
Darkness—30 BSW4
The Stark Hyperspace War—30 BSW4
Rite of Passage—28 BSW4
Jango Fett—27 BSW4
Zam Wesell—27 BSW4
Honor and Duty—24 BSW4
Episode II: Attack of the Clones—22 BSW4
Clone Wars—22–19 BSW4
Clone Wars Adventures—22–19 BSW4
General Grievous—20 BSW4
Episode III: Revenge of the Sith—19 BSW4
Dark Times—19 BSW4
Droids—3 BSW4
Boba Fett: Enemy of the Empire—2 BSW4
Underworld—1 BSW4
Episode IV: A New Hope—SW4
Classic Star Wars—0–3 ASW4
A Long Time Ago . . . —0–4 ASW4
Empire—0 ASW4
Rebellion—0 ASW4
Vader's Quest—0 ASW4
Boba Fett: Man with a Mission—0 ASW4
Jabba the Hutt: The Art of the Deal—1 ASW4
Splinter of the Mind's Eye—1 ASW4
Episode V: The Empire Strikes Back—3 ASW4
Shadows of the Empire—3–5 ASW4
Episode VI: Return of the Jedi—4 ASW4
X-Wing Rogue Squadron—4–5 ASW4
Mara Jade: By the Emperor's Hand—4 ASW4
Heir to the Empire—9 ASW4
Dark Force Rising—9 ASW4
The Last Command—9 ASW4
Dark Empire—10 ASW4
Boba Fett: Death, Lies, and Treachery—11 ASW4
Crimson Empire—11 ASW4
Jedi Academy: Leviathan—13 ASW4
Union—20 ASW4
Chewbacca—25 ASW4
Legacy—130 ASW4

Old Republic Era
25,000 – 1000 years before
Star Wars: A New Hope

Rise of the Empire Era
1000 – 0 years before
Star Wars: A New Hope



Rebellion Era
0 – 5 years after
Star Wars: A New Hope

New Republic Era
5 – 25 years after
Star Wars: A New Hope

New Jedi Order Era
25+ years after
Star Wars: A New Hope

Legacy Era
130+ years after
Star Wars: A New Hope

Infinities
Does not apply to timeline

Sergio Aragonés Stomps Star Wars
Star Wars Tales
Star Wars Infinities
Tag and Bink
Star Wars Visionaries

BSW4 = before *Episode IV: A New Hope*. ASW4 = after *Episode IV: A New Hope*.

STAR WARS®

OMNIBUS

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Nearly four thousand years before the birth of Luke Skywalker, the galaxy faces its greatest threat since the founding of the Republic!

In a time when the Sith Empire is but a bitter memory, an ancient evil rises again, corrupting one of the Jedi's finest and igniting a war that ravages worlds. The Sith are reborn, ties of friendship and family are betrayed, and the course of the galaxy's future is forever altered.

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